AUGUST 11 — 17, 1979

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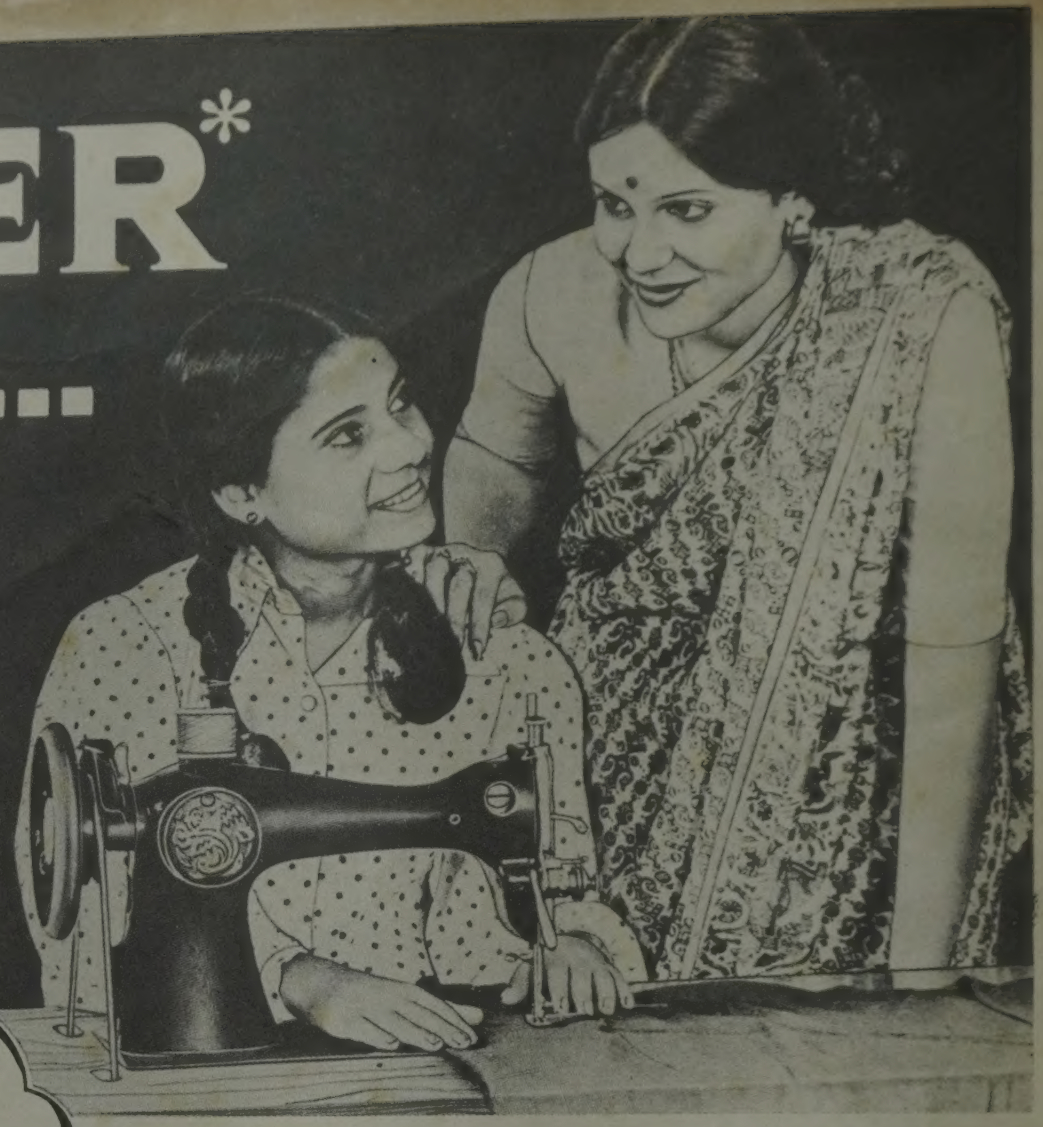

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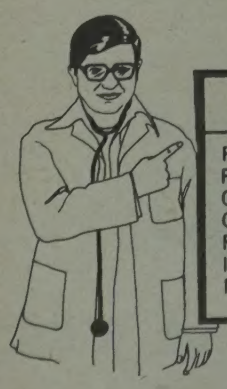

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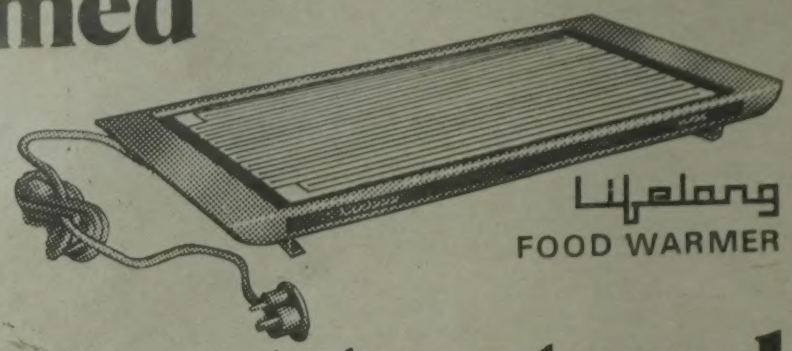

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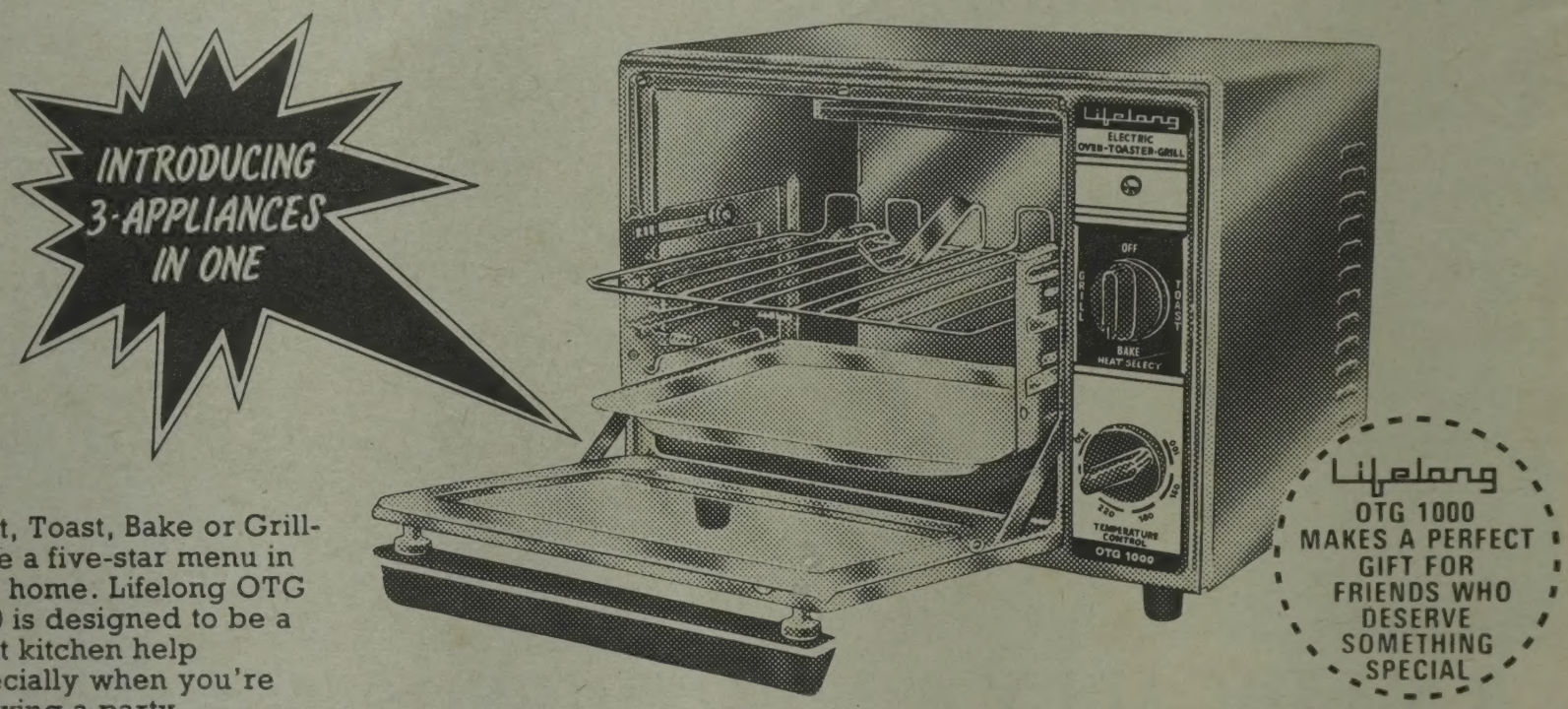

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BINA KUTTY

Twenty-three years old. Schooled at Sophia's School, Bangalore. An Arts graduate from Mt. Carmel's College, Bangalore. Specialized in psychology, economics and literature. Has learnt Indian dancing since the age of 4. Now an executive with an advertising agency.

Photograph : Dhiraj Chawda

VOL. XXXIII NO.32 BOMBAY

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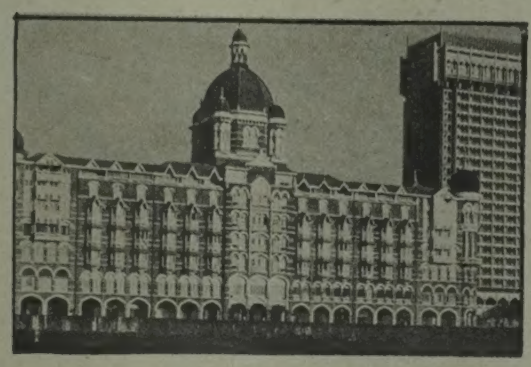
THIS WEEK

CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

What could be more abominable than crimes committed on the young and vulnerable? And yet, few of these are recognized under the penal code. Worse still, even people who come into contact with abused children do not acknowledge that crimes are perpetrated on children even within homes.
Page 10.



75 YEARS OF THE TAJ

'The Taj', as it is known, is one of Bombay's institutions. And this year it celebrates its diamond jubilee. Recollections of the past and a description of the present.
Page 44.

MINISTERIAL PROMISES

At the beginning of their tenures as union ministers of state, Renuka Devi Barkataki and Abha Maiti seemed enthusiastic about doing something concrete for fellow women through their offices. How much of this initial enthusiasm persisted? How much did they achieve?
Page 20.

TEACHING TRADITION

Children spend the major part of their waking hours in school and it is inevitable that the attitudes of their teachers will play a big part in the formation of their own ideas. What are the attitudes of primary school teachers to male and female roles?
Page 40.

ALSO

An Appeal : "My husband, let me go" — **Page 27** Eve's Weekly/Childcare lucky coupon offer — **Page 28** Human Interest Story : Not dwarfed by circumstance — **Page 37** Women in Focus : Sushila Chaurasia — **Page 37** Film Interview : Indrani Mukherjee, farewell to a celluloid mother — **Page 39** Understanding Mechanics : Know your car — **Page 48.**

REGULAR FEATURES

Your Page/**7**, Readers' Voice/**9**, Short Story/**14**, Woman in Focus/**19**, Hiya Honey/**23**, Comics/**25**, Cookery/**32**, Beauty/**31**, Fashion/**42**, Frankly Speaking/**51**, People & Events/**52**, Horoscope/**54**.

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YOUR PAGE

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1st PRIZE

DIVORCE DOUBTS

Is divorce really the way out of an unsuccessful marriage? Or, conversely, is a divorced woman really happy? Is she relieved to have got away from it all? The answer is an emphatic 'no', if ten divorced women whom I've had the occasion to meet lately, are to be believed. The biggest problem, they say, is that in spite of all our progress, a divorcee still has an inexplicable 'stamp' in society — she is taken for granted to be liberated, available and the couldn't - care - a - hang - about-the-consequences type. She is generally taken to be on the look-out for a new husband, preferably rich, even if it amounts to snatching him away from his wife. If she has no children, she is bound to be frigid; if she happens to be the mother of grown-up ones, she's bound to be heartless, cold and out for a gay time. These ten women maintain that society is just not prepared to give them a patient and reasonable hearing. A woman could be having a two-timing lecherous husband. She may have been the victim of tyrannical in-laws. Or, it could simply be a case of two people gradually falling apart and deciding to separate by mutual consent. The consequences are far from happy — very often, she has to leave the children behind. Sometimes, she has to look for a job and support herself. Divorce, in itself, is a psychologically shattering process. If on top of that, society is to ostracize the divorcee with one sweeping lash, the situation becomes not just painful, but quite unnerving.

PARIMAL BOSE, Calcutta

Your ten women are probably right. A divorced woman is always much worse off than a divorced man. But when you consider that our society has always put full responsibility on the woman alone, for preservation of marriage and bringing up of children, this is not surprising. When man becomes an equal parner with woman, in matters of home, marriage and children, divorce will affect him the same way, perhaps.

2nd PRIZE

LOW CASTE, HIGH CASTE

The recent decision of the barbers in Tamil Nadu not to train their children in their hereditary trade, as they are treated as outcastes, is a pointer. In our country one's profession makes or mars a person, as his status in life is dependant on it. Work such as scavenging, hair cutting, butchering, sweeping and cleaning of roads is considered 'menial', to be attended to by lowcaste people. This serves to perpetuate the caste system, while government is taking all steps to eradicate this evil, which militates against the very principle of democracy. The crux of the matter is that the significance of the dignity of labour is lost on us, as our mental make-up has conditioned our minds to view things in a narrow, conventional way, missing the vital point. It is to be said in our favour that we are as oblivious of the dignity of labour as we are of the indignity of begging. It is a natural corrollary, I suppose. How else does one account for the preponderance of beggars in our country? Even the healthy and the able-bodied unashamedly beg for alms and train their children in this obnoxious trade. In the Western countries, begging is a cognizable offence. The chimney-sweep's or the toilet cleaner's job is considered just as good as any other means of livelihood and no odium is attached. This forms the basis for a classless society.

Some of our basic concepts handed down from generation to generation need drastic changes if our country is to be democratic in the truest sense of the word, affording equal opportunities to one and all.

MISS E. DHAMAYANTHY DEVASUNDARAM, Madras

Yes, how often we've seen this attitude among Indians: better beg than scavenge. Class and caste have done so much damage, it is even difficult to envisage just how the change will come. One fear is that, in this area, even the young are revolting: they do not want to do the 'labour' which their forefathers have been doing.

3rd PRIZE

ALERT AND WAITING. . .

The amending bill to the Dowry Act, which is expected to be introduced in the coming monsoon session of Parliament, will purportedly provide for enhancing the punishment of offenders from six months rigorous imprisonment to two years. The bill seeks, inter alia, to prescribe a ceiling on marriage expenses, as also the mode of expenditure, to ensure against circumvention on the ban on dowry.

What is significant is that the Social Welfare Department of the Union Education Ministry, and various other women's social organizations, have been associated with the finalising of the provisions of the bill. If passed, the bill will have come not a day too soon. While it is heartening that the government is taking steps to combat the cancer of dowry in the wake of protests by women's organizations against the alarming increase of deaths by young married girls, legislation alone cannot eradicate it Social welfare organizations and voluntary agencies, particularly women's bodies, will have to wage a constant battle until this canker is completely eradicated.

INDU K. MALLAH, Nilgiris.

Of course, this evil must be eradicated, will be eradicated. We cannot afford to be complacent — only constant and sustained efforts and protests will achieve the results we want.

GETTING TYPED

Though times have changed for women with regard to education, equal job opportunities, etc., yet as far as sex is concerned, women themselves prefer to remain tight-lipped as it may trigger off adverse reaction in the men. Had I not been working in an office where 99 per cent employees are males, I would not have come to know that the female population is divided into two categories by males: one, the 'homely type' and very much marriageable and the other, the 'fast' or 'chalu' type who are meant only for flirting and clandestine affairs.

As long as one does not decide to remain either a spinster or an 'other woman' or get labelled a lesbian, one has to put up a facade of being a simple woman who is not interested in nudie magazines, blue films or, for that matter, in an uninhibited sexual life.

Is it not high time, women started agitating for equal sexual rights?

DEEPTY DAS GUPTA, New Delhi

It's the Hindi cinema syndrome: the heroine is very, very good and the vamp is very, very bad, with nothing in between to show that it takes all sorts to make a world. Moreover, have you noticed how infinitely horrid the 'chalu' woman is, compared to the Casanova (man) who is always so lovable and charming!

MIRROR, MIRROR,

What will I see in September?

INCENTIVE

Minna De Souza of Chiron Beauty Parlour, Centaur Hotel, Bombay says:

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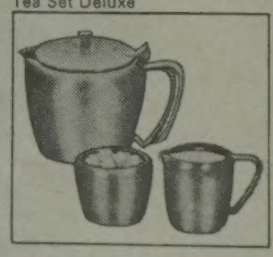
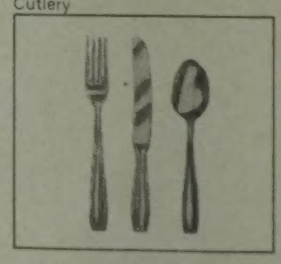


Cutlery



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PANN-24

READERS' VOICE

Most articles raise a question, a comment or at least a criticism. Write them down and mail them to us!

DEMYSTIFYING MECHANICS

I find no words to thank you for your well-defined articles in the series "Mechanics: It's simpler than you think" by Dilip Bam. They have proved very useful to me. It makes the money spent on the magazine worthwhile. I hope you will soon give us details about the buying, maintenance and repairing of various other gadgets and machines, like the hand-pump (to get water from the Corporation), the sewing machine and the alarm clock.

P. GOMEY, Madras.

THE RISING OF THEIR SUN

With reference to the letter from K. S. Shukla in your issue of June 9, referring to the article on Harijans, "Their sun has yet to rise" by Indra Gidwani, I could hardly contain my anger and disgust. To quote, "Their children are educated. They easily get jobs in government departments." This the letter-writer most confidently states. I suggest she/he share this information with the little girl whose route is the New Delhi road, selling, begging and pleading for a few paise for her family. What joyous news this would be to her small ears.

If the Harijans are having such a great time, then how come there is no queue for becoming one? There are many more points I have not stressed upon, but instead have left for Ms./Mr. Shukla to think about. How many of Ms./Mr. Shukla's friends are Harijans? Has there ever been a time when she/he wanted to be a Harijan? Let me modify the words of the song by Ralph Mc Tell for the occasion: "Let me take you by the hand, and lead you through the streets of Delhi, I'll show you something that will make you change your mind." The Harijans' sun will never rise if there are people like Ms./Mr. Shukla to make sure it never does

ZEHRA MONHIEM, Abu Dhabi.

THE DESERT IS FULL OF SURPRISES

We read with interest your special supplement on Kutch (June 23). The central theme of the place and role of women in the social and economic life of Kutch is brought out vividly and with understanding. On reading the Kutch supplement, our respect for working women in towns and villages has been heightened. These are the women who, despite living in none too happy surroundings, are alive and go on creating. The issue also puts Kutch in proper perspective. The region, which is known outside as backward and arid, has for the first time been shown as a place which also is an important part of our heritage.

KUSUM C. THACKER, HEENA C. THACKER, Bombay.

Please accept our warmest congratulations on behalf of myself and all the members of Inner Wheel Club, Bhuj for opening up to Indian women the fact that Kutch is not just a desert and that the so-called desert is full of surprises, as you have rightly said on the cover.

I hope you will give more details in your subsequent issues. Kutch should be included on the tourist map of India. I congratulate your staffer, Ms. Jain, for taking the pains to travel into the interiors of Kutch.

SHARMISTHA K. MANKAD, Bhuj.

Please accept our heartiest greetings on behalf of the Kutch Economic Development Council for Eve's Weekly's wonderful Kutch supplement (June 23). From what we have heard from friends, it has been widely acclaimed. This is certainly due to your staff reporter, Chakresh Jain's ceaseless efforts in getting to know Kutch on her visit there.

K. V. THAKKAR, Bombay.

Let me congratulate you on bringing out a Kutch special (June 23). The issue brings into the limelight our culture and the progress we have made since Independence. I look forward to more such specials!

J. N. ANTANI, Bhuj.

NEXT WEEK

ISSUE OF AUGUST 18

FOCUS ON: THE POST-INDEPENDENCE GENERATION

A peep into the lives and times of our young people — the first generation to be born into independent India.

* **What are their feelings for the country?**
* **How politically aware and concerned are they?**
* **Are young people less regional and communal in their attitudes?**

AND

* **The long queue for employment**
* **The courage of working students**
* **Young life in the slums**

ALSO

* **Trends in young marriages**
* **Young and sexual**
* **Young lifestyles**

PLUS

* **How sporty are our youth?**
* **Young people in the Arts**
* **Youth in films**
* **Does wisdom come (only) with age?**
* **What the older generation thinks of young people today**

And much, much more. Book your copy today!

CHILD VICTIMS OF ADULT VIOLENCE

Meena Javeri

Inhumanity manifests itself in a variety of ways today. Yet there are certain offences which are loathsome when they are committed on innocent, helpless children. Today, with the weakening of familial ties and the growing aversion to marital obligations, children have actually become an unavoidable nuisance — a mental, emotional and economic burden. It is ironic that the United Nations' International Year of the Child has achieved little besides highlighting this growing distaste for children all over the world.

What else can explain the alarming increase of child abuse (an increase by 50 per cent in USA alone) and the emergence of the "battered baby" syndrome. The appalling lack of concern that we see everywhere and the lack of a sense of responsibility towards the young are indications that aversion to children exists in all kinds of society and knows no economic or educational restraint.

We Indians are no saints either. Where, before, there used to be an aura of religious sanctity around child bearing, today the offences committed against children would top the list of crimes in the country. Unfortunately, many of these atrocities go unnoticed by law. Cruelty, ill-treatment, child molestation, wilful neglect and malnutrition are the most common forms of physical and mental child abuse, but they have no place in the Indian Penal Code.

No doubt kidnapping, maiming and using children for begging, incest and raping of children, selling and buying of minors for prostitution, abandoning of babies, and child labour attract legal penalties, but often these laws have so many loopholes that they are virtually inoperative. The Constitution of India and the UN Charter of Children's Rights certainly state the ideal, but there is a wide gap between the ideal and the reality.

The Battered Baby

By definition a battered baby is one who has been subjected to repeated acts of physical beating and torture and prolonged deprivation of food and water. These youngsters serve as convenient targets for the aggressive tendencies of adults, triggered off under accumulated personal, marital or economic frustrations. And the poor, helpless, innocent child becomes the victim of these maladjusted, malevolent, adults. Children are vulnerable to injury, and even death, from assaults which might be relatively innocuous on older persons. For example, there was a case of a three year-old boy whose father gripped him hard in a fit of rage when the child wet his father's shirt. After a particularly gruelling day at work the father could not control his temper and the child suffered extensive laceration of the right lobe of the liver.

There was another case of a ten-month-old infant who suffered multiple fractures when the father violently jerked and shook him in an angry attempt to quieten his howling.

However, in India most such cases go undetected because by and large they are not considered as child abuse. They are considered incidental to family life and hence are treated as private affairs. In fact, Section 89 of the Indian Penal Code states that "nothing, which is done in good faith for a child by the parents / guardians, is an offence by reason of any harm which it may cause or be intended to cause to the child."

Noella Pinto, a psychiatric social worker at the Child Guidance Clinic in the J.J. Hospital of Bombay, feels that very often parents hurt their children out of good intentions, thinking that

what they are doing is right for the child. She gave the example of a community in India who has this traditional belief handed down from generations, that if a child wets the bed, steals or tells lies, the parents/guardians light a candle and put scalding hot wax on the child. The searing hot pain that the child experiences is supposed to instil in him a fear which stops him from persisting in his wrong habit.

I wonder how many adults would submit to such punishment every time they tell a lie or do something wrong! Yet, this is as accepted a form of punishment as spanking or a cuff on the ear. Even if such cruelty is reported, the law would not be able to do much because it is claimed as done in good faith. Hospital records barely show one case in a year of a "battered baby." The severe cases that go to the physicians are passed off by the parents/guardians as an accident and it is difficult to distinguish between a genuine accident and a case of child abuse.

Most physicians are normally unaware and hence are unable to grasp the extent of child abuse. They cannot believe that parents would deliberately destroy their own child. The general belief is that parents can never hate or detest their own offspring and that the home is a place of love, security and safety. In reality, often more violence is inflicted by relatives at home than by strangers on the street. Of the handful of children I met in a remand home, eight out of ten had run away from cruel, overbearing parents/guardians.

Rejection

Dr. L. P. Shah, who has been an active social worker as a consultant psychiatrist in child guidance clinics, has no illusions regarding the treatment meted out to children in India. "The battered baby syndrome is as prevalent in India as in England and America," he said. "The only difference here is that it is not brought to public notice."

Judging from his own experience in this field, during the last 20 years, he feels that the offences committed against children are far out of proportion to other crimes, with at least two out of every five children abused in some form or the other, affecting the child either physically, mentally or emotionally.

"Child abuse," he says, "is due to parental pathology. Some parents, guardians or teachers have a faulty attitude towards the child." The principal reason for child abuse, he feels, is rejection. Rejection is a kind of disguised hatred towards the child. It may be triggered off by some shortcoming in the child, like a physical defect, mental retardation or low IQ. Or the child might be illegitimate, a step-child, or a fifth successive daughter, or it might have proved an ill omen like the loss of money or death in the family following its birth. Rejection may also be born of marital problems, economic frustrations, or unhealthy comparisons and favouritism by the parents, or the father or mother might be an alcoholic, sadist, or themselves victims of child abuse when young.

Whatever the reason, rejection is the number one cause of cruelty, ill treatment, malnutrition and wilful neglect of the child. This rejection becomes the number one cause of juvenile delinquency and anti-social behaviour among the young. Just a few days ago there was the case of a young girl who was brought from a village to Bombay's J.J. Hospital by her mother. The child had a huge untreated boil on her head. When the doctors examined her she had already developed blindness. The mother had wanted to bring the child earlier, but her husband and in-laws had opposed with the argument that the child was just a female after all, and it didn't matter if she died.

Finally, the mother had sold her jewellery and brought the child to Bombay. But it was too late. The indifference of her relatives had already condemned the child to blindness. Yet such a case is not recorded or recognised as child abuse, and nothing can be done about it.

PARENTS GET AWAY WITH ANY AMOUNT OF CRUELTY TOWARDS THEIR CHILDREN, BECAUSE WHATEVER THEY DO IS "IN GOOD FAITH", AFTER ALL

The problem of child abuse is not confined to the lower classes. Middle and upper class children also suffer through gross neglect, cruelty and ill treatment. In fact, the growing trend among the affluent towards Western style of living and values has made their children as vulnerable as the children of the poor. The rich man's child, often left to the mercy of the ayah, suffers acute mental and emotional loneliness that builds up into insecurity, which leads him into anti-social activities like taking drugs, stealing, etc.

According to Dr. L. P. Shah, about 40 per cent of child abuse cases arise out of a subconscious hatred towards the child, but if you ask the parents, they will definitely deny it or say that they didn't mean to hurt the child. The other 60 per cent of the cases arise out of ignorance and poverty. But the fact remains that they are widely prevalent.

Incest and Sexual Molestation of Children

"Sexual offences against children are very common, but most of them don't come to light," says Dr. Phatnani, a medico-legal expert. He feels that of every one case reported there are at least twenty others that go unreported. The youngest case of a sexually abused child in India was a six-month old baby girl who was raped by a temple priest. In Dr. Phatnani's own practical experience he has come across an eleven-month old child who had been molested by her uncle. According to the doctor, most of these cases pivot on sexual frustration, influence of alcohol, sadistic pleasure and the belief that intercourse with a (virgin) child will cure venereal disease. The details of these crimes are gruesome and chilling, like that notorious case in 1974 of a five-year-old girl who was raped behind Babulnath temple in Bombay, and then strangled to death. The child had been molested and found dead in a public lavatory.

Cases of incest are probably more abhorrent and repulsive. There was one where a daughter of seven was continuously harassed and then one day molested by her 40-year-old father. The mother complained to the police, but instead of locking up the father, the child was put into a remand home for protection!

There are also many cases where the parents, specially the mother, encourages the young daughter to please men and make some extra money. Recently three twelve-year-old girls were picked up by the police at the V.T. station (Bombay) for soliciting. They were put in a remand home and it was learnt that their parents were aware and in fact had encouraged their activities.

The law is virtually impotent in such cases. Not only does it operate after irrevocable damage has been done to the child, but the legal proceedings and formalities that go to prove such a case only serve to heighten the humiliation and misery of the child. The social stigma that the child suffers later on, discourages the parents, especially of the middle and upper classes from reporting such a crime.

Kidnapping

Unlike in Western countries, where kidnapping is mostly for monetary gain, in India 90 per cent of kidnap cases have a sexual motivation. About 75 per cent of the victims are female minors and 60 per cent of the kidnappers are young men between 16-25 years (Bureau of Research and Documentation). Because of this very significant relationship between the ages of the kidnapper and the victim, cases of elopement of minor girls tend to get mixed up with kidnapping.

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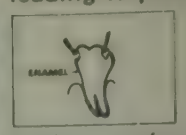

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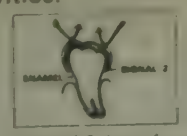

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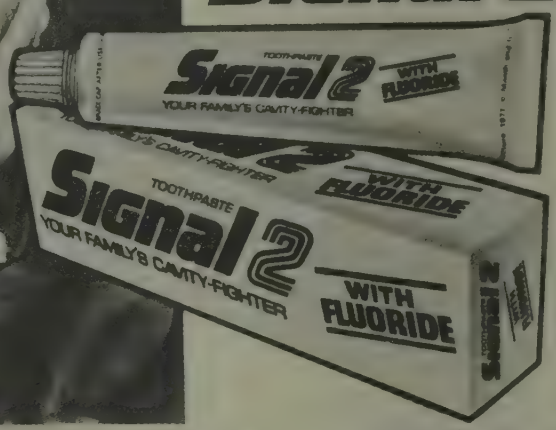
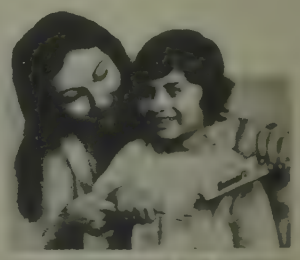


your family's cavity—fighter



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CHILD VICTIMS OF ADULT VIOLENCE

However, sexual motivation exists in both the cases and it includes rape, sodomy and selling the girls to brothels. The monetary motivation on the other hand is more for begging than for ransom. In Bombay city alone, in the last two years there were 269 cases of kidnapping.

Section 361 of the Indian Penal Code punishes kidnapping with imprisonment that can extend up to seven years. There is also a separate provision where the procurement of a minor girl with an intent to force or seduce her into illicit intercourse is punishable under Section 366A with a term that can extend upto ten years and a fine. Sections 372-373 punish the selling and buying of minors for purposes of prostitution with imprisonment that extends to ten years and a fine. But often these laws are only on paper and seldom invoked be-

cause of poverty, ignorance, fear of scandal and police indifference.

Abandoned Babies

Every year there are about 12 lakh babies abandoned in India. Most of these are found in dustbins, on railway station platforms or left in the cradles provided by municipal hospitals, orphanages and child welfare homes. Of these, 80 per cent die of exposure and lack of attention. The rest end up in institutions or grow up as vagrants and beggars. Later on, many are exploited as servants or forced into prostitution. The prime cause for abandoning infants is usually the illegitimacy of the child. Poverty has been another powerful factor.

According to Sec. 317, when an infant is exposed in any place with the intent of abandoning, the parent or person responsible for the care of such a child can be imprisoned for a period of seven years. With so many of these unwanted infants, abandoning a child can be a convenient substitute for killing it.

Aware of this, the Indian Penal Code provides that if the infant dies, the offending parents can be tried for murder or culpable homicide as the case may be. However, this provision is ineffectual for no one bothers to trace the parents of an abandoned child who is dead!

Infanticide And Child Murders

Infanticide means the killing of a child and is regarded as murder by the law. There was a case in Bombay's J.J. Hospital in 1976 when a woman delivered her seventeenth baby girl and killed the child within two hours.

Once again, the female child is more often the victim than the male child. Female infanticide was very much practised in several parts of India, where they used to drown the infants in vessels of milk. Even though this practice is fading, the gross discrimination between male and female children still exists.

Illegitimacy of the child is another motive. The death rate of illegitimate children is much higher that that of the legitimate in all countries.

Very often, children who have been kidnapped or sexually abused are murdered subsequently. Take the Jhunjhunwala case. The child was very attached to the servant. The servant kidnapped the child and took him to Ambernath. From there he called the parents in Bombay and demanded a ransom. The parents agreed, but meanwhile, for no reason whatsoever, the servant killed the four-year-old child and buried him among some shrubs.

Children are sometimes also the victims of revenge, as in the Chunawala murder case where the servant killed the master's four children because he had a quarrel with the master about some payment.

Poverty, physical deformity or mental retardation of the child, even religion beliefs, have also been grounds for infanticide. Infanticide can be either be an act of commission like suffocating the child or an act of omission like not feeding it or not tending it when it is sick. Acts of omission are more prevalent because death occurs outside the hospital and does not attract the attention of the police. Besides, it does not leave behind any tangible proof or physical mark. Who knows how many infants have been done away with in this manner because obviously no one is likely to voluntarily report such a case. Besides, when the registration of births is so woefully incomplete, it is impossible to keep track of what happens to a new born baby.

Child Labour

Child labour has been univer sally condemned as an unmitigated evil. Mahatma Gandhi said, "It's a sign of national degrada tion when little children are removed from schools and are employed in earning wages. No nation worthy of her name can possibly afford the misuse of her children." There is nothing derogatory in work as such, but when a child is removed from school and playground and is forced to work at an early age to make a living, he is deprived of all opportunities of mental and even physiological growth. Lack of education lays waste his potentialities and perpetuates the child's lowly status.

Thirty years ago the U.N. had pleaded that by reason of the child's physical and mental immaturity, he must not be made to take up employment. And though Article 24 of the Indian Constitution prohibits child labour, the fact remains that India has not reached that stage of economic development where child labour can be totally abolished.

Child labour is desired because it is cheaper and more amenable to discipline. In 1971, the number of child workers in India totalled 10.7 million forming 6 per cent of our total labour force. Of these children about 80 per cent are employed in agriculture. The rest are spread over handlooms, powerlooms, the food industry, beedi making, small rubber and plastic factories, domestic service, garages, restaurants, etc. As long as poverty exists, this evil will persist and yet the arms of the law do not protect these child workers, trade unions do not bother about them, and public opinion takes no heed. There are also many self-employed child workers such as shoeshine boys, vendors, car cleaners and many who are used for illegal activities like carrying illict liquor, pickpocketing, selling of movie tickets in the black market, etc. In Bombay, 41 per cent of child workers fall in this category.

Children should be the most privileged class in a state for they are a nation's richest asset. But today, having children has become a cumbersome necessity, and parenthood an unwelcome responsibility. To the rich, children have merely become an ego trip, begotten for the pleasure of watching one's own little clone toddle around. Though the Constitution of India in Article 39 provides that children should not be abused and should be given opportunities to develop in a healthy manner, this is still a Utopian dream. There is definitely a need to make our professed commitment to the young more meaningful.

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how i wonder what you are

Veera Dalal

IN the thousandth millennium B.C. a Star fell in love with a shepherd boy. And being swept off its feet, fell tumbling down to the earth. The shepherd boy was, to say the least, very puzzled by the erratic behaviour of his admirer. "You have forgotten your proper place," he scolded. "Do you realise that you have left a hole in the sky? And I'm sure that cannot do anyone any good." But the Star who was dreadfully irresponsible, only laughed and did a couple of headstands.

"You really must be your age you know; how old are you anyway?"

"A couple of million years I think," the Star replied.

"Then you must see that the age gap between us is very large and we can never hope to ever bridge it."

"Love can bridge anything," the Star replied.

But by then the shepherd, who's name was Uranium, and it had made him dreadfully uppity, stomped off to look after his sheep.

"Come away with me," the Star said, bouncing along behind him.

"And do what, pray tell?" the shepherd asked raising his eyebrows. This was his way of looking bored and he had practised it in front of the mirror to perfection.

"Oh we'll just go here and there," the Star answered carelessly.

"Did no one ever tell you about responsibility?" the shepherd asked.

"No one ever told me about anything, and if they did, I never listened," the Star replied. "I've always done precisely what I wanted — which was nothing — till I saw you."

how i wonder what you are

"Humph," said the shepherd boy looking severely at a sheep which was asking its mate to "try some of that absolutely divine thistle."

"If you don't come with me I shall go off and sit near a stream and write sad poems all my life," the Star said.

"Stuff and nonsense! You're going right back to your home. Do you know that scientists have already got wind of your behaviour and there's an awful panic going around about black holes in the sky?"

"Well, I can't help that," the Star replied tossing its head most defiantly so that all its sparkles brushed its face and its looked quite becoming, so that for a split second Uranium looked almost fond of the "silly little thing."

"Many a meteor would give their tails to be in your place," the Star said.

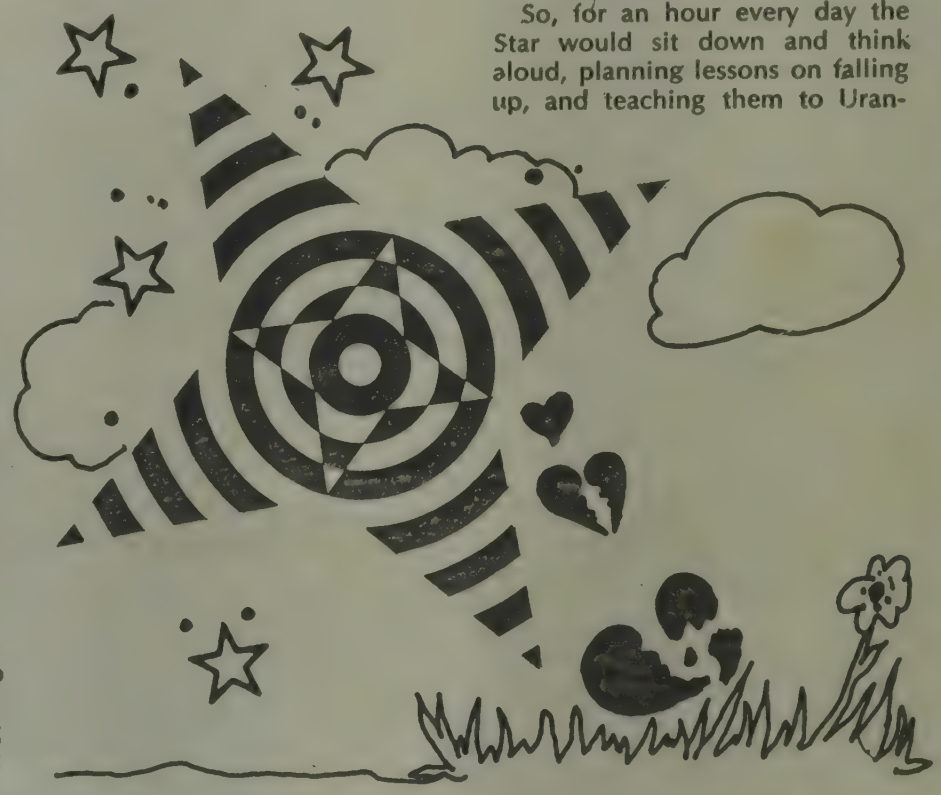
Realising the ice was broken, it became more and more boastful, telling Uranium carelessly about this and that fantastic something or the other, so that Uranium forgot all about his sheep, and three of them had the most dreadful tummy ache by the evening, having joyfully eaten up a tree in their new found freedom.

But Uranium was not to know that, because the more he listened, the more his feet itched and the larger his eyes grew and the more his brain whirled at the infinite possibilities. He was hit by a strange malady — sky sickness.

Uranium didn't count sheep in order to make himself sleep that night although he didn't sleep at all, but spent the night gazing up at the stars and racking his brain as to how he could get there. Finally he asked the Star, who promptly answered that it hadn't the faintest idea how to go back, as falling down was always easier than "falling" up, which is something you have to learn.

"And anyway," it went on, "even if I did know how to take you there, I wouldn't, because how do I know you won't fall in love with another star while you're up there?"

The Star was rather young, as stars go, an immature million years old. Uranium patiently explained that since he had not fallen in love with it, why would he fall in love with another star? The star saw his point and was much more open to the suggestion until — "Ah! But all stars aren't the same you know, some are quite different. There are beautiful stars like Venus I wouldn't trust you with, and there's Mars who's really much more impressive than I am, and there's Pluto who knows all about magic and. . . and. . ."



"Then what's your name?" Uranium asked.

"Oh, just call me Star," it replied evasively.

"Star. . . what? Surely you must have a first name?"

"Never felt the need for one," the Star replied.

"And why is that?"

"Because I have not decided what kind of star I want to be."

"How interesting!" observed Uranium. "Have you seen your psychiatrist about this?"

By this time the Star was impatient and restless — "You're so boring. I really don't know if I love you at all. That's the whole trouble with me. I am always so undecided."

And that was its name.

Undecided stars are a strange species. They never really belong anywhere for very long. They are restless, unpredictable, capable of being as impressive as Mars but never really trying. The only thing they are constantly doing is falling in love. And even here they are not constant. Which makes them rather a lonely lot really.

Anyway, this is just an insert in order to tell you that since the Star is our hero/heroine (it could not decide whether it was male or female/both/neither) this story may take the strangest turns/none at all/just explode in your face.

But the Star — who loved Uranium in fits and starts — decided it would be quite a lark to actually take Uranium up to meet the other stars; quite unheard of really, but that was no reason why it shouldn't be done.

So, for an hour every day the Star would sit down and think aloud, planning lessons on falling up, and teaching them to Uranium. What with teaching and learning and discussing and practising four days passed by. After each lesson the Star would ask, "Do you love me, Uranium?" and Uranium's answer would always be "No."

He would say, "I cannot love you till you decide who you are, and then I have to decide if I love your decision."

But the Star never decided because indecision meant freedom. "If I do not decide what I am, I can make myself be anything. Can you not love my undecidedness?"

"That," said Uranium freezingly, "is the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard, and I'm going to bed."

CHAPTER II — THE LAWS OF "FALLING" UP

Lesson I

"First of all," said the Star, "In order to fall up. . ."

"Rise up," said Uranium. "Fall up," said the Star. "Rise up," said Uranium. "Fall up," "rise up," "fall up". . . And that's how the first lesson ended — in a violent quarrel when Uranium said, "You're stupid," and the Star said, "You're quite dull witted."

And that night three more sheep got stomach pain having eaten a house. Finding the flavour "quite distinct but rather uncomfortable on the tongue, the walls were all right — but when you got to the door knobs. . ." (The sheep were all latent food connoisseurs. Not being interested in stars at all, they did not listen to the next few lessons of the star, and so never reached the stars at all, which was good because stars do not eat.)

Lesson II

"As I was saying," said the Star, "I was saying it wrong. I shall put it another way. In order to fall up, you can use the mind. Don't think of Aristotle, but reflect on Plato. And you've reached the stars. Both thinking and reflecting are mind things, but thinking is the mind looking up, and reflecting is the mind looking down. Let the mind reflect on itself. Reflect of yourself. For on the earth there are hidden stars."

Uranium said, "Now you're showing off. I don't think I will ever reach the stars because I do not think or reflect on anything but my sheep. And if I start thinking of stars that means no grass, and that means thistles, and that means no food, and that means starvation. And that means you're a silly old star leading me to starvation, and

THE STAR'S FANTASTIC TALK OF "FALLING UP" AND "REFLECTING" AND ALL THAT, MADE NO SENSE TO THE SHEPHERD BOY, WHO COULD ONLY THINK OF HIS SHEEP

that you're no good for me and nor could the other stars be, so I don't want to know you any more, because the whole thing is ridiculous from beginning to end. Goodbye."

But he did not leave. Oh, he was there all right, but not in the head, if you know what I mean. Every time the star talked to him, he looked up from his counting and examining of thistles to say absently. "Oh yes, I see what you mean," or, "No, not at all." So that the Star got very angry with Uranium.

"You are useless. I don't know why I love you at all. Don't you see that you do think, but you think yourself down to starvation? Think back to the reflection or you'll never reach the stars."

"17, 18, 19, 20, 21, hmmm?... What did you say? Can't you see I'm busy? Some of us have to work, some of us are responsible.." (This word having a good rousing sound, it was the shepherd's favourite. It worked wonders on the sheep which gave up trees and houses and chewed only grass again.)

And soon, for the first time, the star felt sorry for the shepherd and cried, for it loved him. "I must be patient and understanding with him," it thought.

Lesson III

"All right," said the Star, "the last two lessons were just the way Mars the star of war, or Uranus the star of wisdom, would have told you to reach the stars. The first is brave, the way a warrior is, the second is wise, the way the mind is. I'll talk of it your way — the way of responsibility. Responsibility makes you look after your sheep. And you are responsible for the fact that your sheep do not know anything about stars."

And one of the sheep looked up and listened. Not because it liked stars, or knew of them, or cared, or was curious, or anything. It looked up and listened because it thought the stars were a new kind of grass and maybe they were wonderful to eat, even tasty — not like the boring green stuff it had to eat all day long just because sheep weren't supposed to eat trees or houses. (In fact, this was the same sheep which had led its brothers to eat houses and trees. Quite a revolutionary in its own way. If the shepherd hadn't come by and brought it back to grass, as he did by saying "irresponsible" when he did, the sheep would have by now been a terrific cook).

"Stars?" he said looking up. And both the Star and the shepherd blinked their eyes for this was the first time a sheep had ever spoken, or bothered to, or had the need to, or was moved to, and the shepherd and the sheep looked at the Star with wonder. And the Star laughed.

"You can work miracles," the shepherd said and he was very impressed. "Hey, can you do that to dogs?"

"Yes."

"Stones?"

"Yes."

"Streams?"

"Yes."

"Winds?"

"Yes."

"Flowers?"

"Yes."

"You can make them talk?"

"I can make them **want** to talk," said the Star stamping its foot impatiently, not seeing the need for all this fuss and bother. It got irritated, did ten summersaults, stuck out its tongue, sang loudly and refused to speak to the shepherd for the next four days.

Lesson IV

The shepherd spent the first day that the Star didn't speak to him, pretending to sleep, but kept the corner of one eye open out of which he watched his sheep.

They seemed to him to be enchanted and he felt unsure of the fact that he knew them at all. But the sheep knew that he knew that they knew and they were rather self-conscious on that day, eating grass half-heartedly, embarrassedly bleating to each other so that they seemed to be even stupider than they actually were. Uranium went off by himself into the woods feeling disappointed and pained.

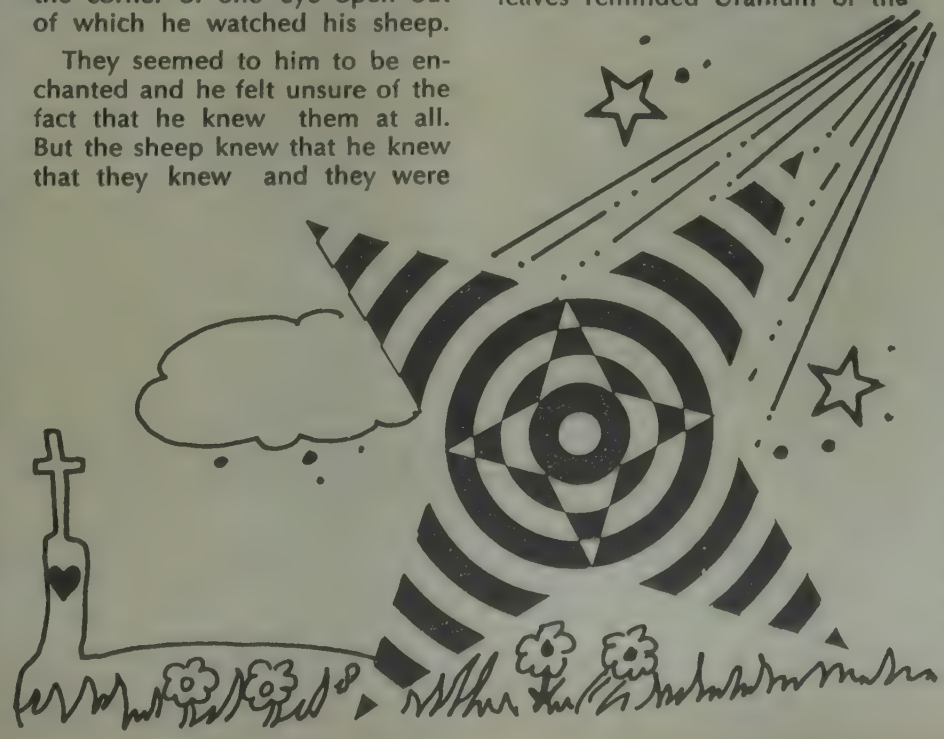
He spent hours making the cleverest conversation with a stream, but it was one sided as he could not make it talk. Nor did the flowers, nor the wind. When the Star had stopped talking to him, everything had, and he felt very, very lonely.

On the second day he sat in silence not caring to move or eat, not wanting to disturb the pain in his heart which was slowly growing into a longing that was stronger than him.

On the third day the forest moved closer to him sensing his sadness. The squirrels played near him, pretending he wasn't there and a bird which was teaching the fattest little fledgling how to fly, decided to sit near Uranium for some rest without any apparent reason; and the stream moved nearer to his feet, but Uranium was dead to the world — which was enchanted.

And on the third day that the Star didn't speak to him many leaves on the tree he was sitting under died — well before autumn, because they wanted to stroke his hair and his cheeks as they fell at his feet. The falling leaves reminded Uranium of the Star. So he got up and went back to find it.

On the fourth day the Star didn't speak to him because it couldn't. It was dying. He picked it up tenderly in his arms and rocked it to and fro saying, "Star, speak to me. I can't live without the things you say to me. Star please don't die."



And as he sat watching it, the love of the star touched him and he understood that it was dying because it loved him. Because its love had brought it to earth and earth air killed stars, covering its sparkle with dust so that it looked like an ordinary pebble. And when he realised what the Star had done for him, he forgot himself for the first time in his life and only the Star was there and the pain of the Star was there and it was his pain, and it was their pain.

It was the pain of love, and that is how Uranium **did** fall up in love with the Star. He fell up through millions and millions of years cutting through them like butter. And the Star opened its eyes and smiled.

They had reached the home of stars which is a place called heaven, where the law of gravity does not apply, and the man who talked about apples only falling down would have got 0 out of 100 in his examination, with a big red cross through his entire answer papers. Because in Heaven apples can fall sideways, hang around in the air, fall up or do just about anything they feel like, so long as they don't fall on anyone's head and hurt them.

"What has happened?" Uranium asked. And his voice sounded deep and resonant and strong to his ears.

"The first three lessons never worked," the Star replied, "and even if they had worked they would have taken too long. They always do. But the way of love is the easiest way of falling up or down. Even if it is painful. Because after loving love, you have to die."

By the time they had spoken, 30,000 earth years had passed by because time no longer mattered. On earth watches are wound and records of time are kept to keep off boredom, but in heaven watches simply fall apart. So that if this story ends by saying that they lived happily ever after, it means just that. After this they were always happy because that is the way of Heaven. And this is a true ending because Heaven does not know how to lie.

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She joined the P & T department in 1948 and has made her way to the top in a predominantly masculine service.

She had her early education in Jabalpur where her father, a Major in the Indian Army, was posted. She graduated from the Sagar University, specialising in English, but taking an equal interest in Hindi. Her quest for knowledge led her to securing the Bachelor's degree in Law.

Mrs. Chaurasia has a wide and varied experience in the field of administration, having served the Government in various capacities, including a brief stint in the Ministry of Defence. In postal administration, she has held several important posts covering practically all spheres of the service.

Her contribution to the development of postal facilities in Madhya Pradesh is of special significance, particularly in the backward tribal areas and interior villages. As a Superintendent, as an Assistant Post-Master General, as a Director, and now as the Post-Master General, she has worked tirelessly to extend facilities in communication to the furthest corners of the vast state.

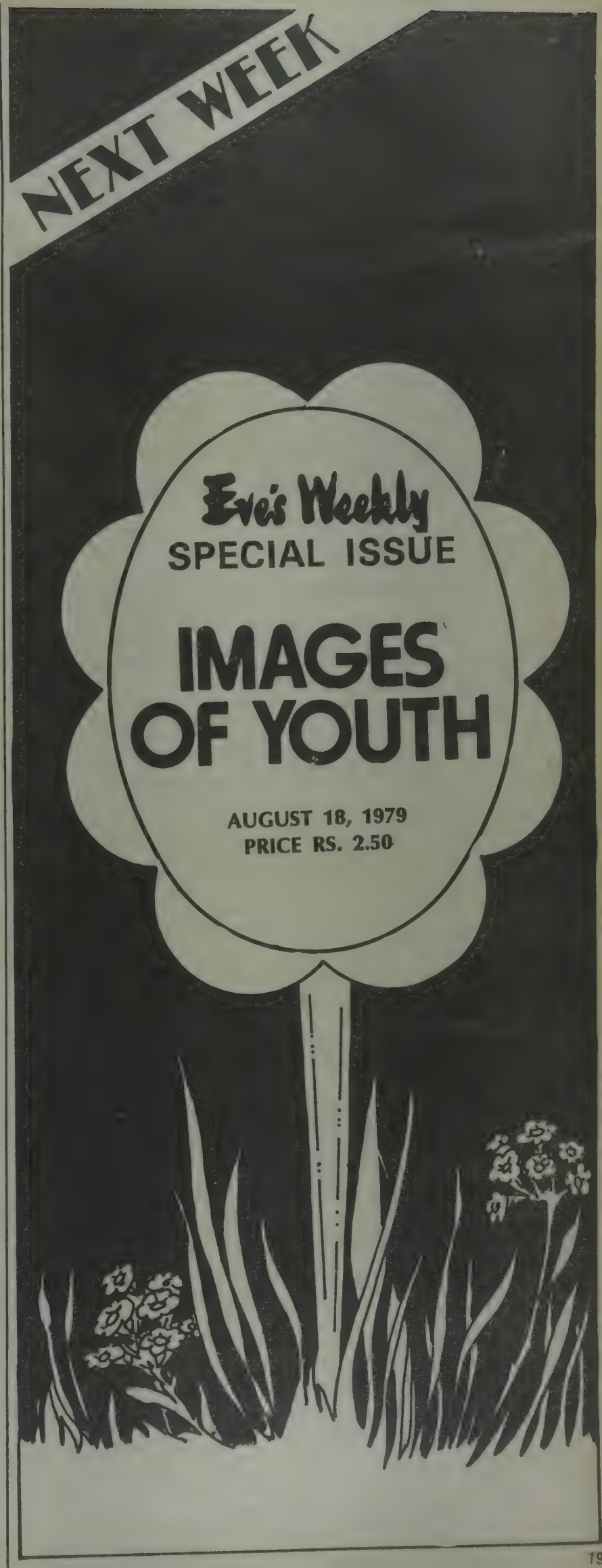
She is responsible for a number of new post office buildings in these areas, including residential quarters for the staff.

Mrs. Chaurasia is known for her sympathetic attitude towards colleagues and subordinates and her human approach to problems. As Post-Master General of the largest state in India, she has to deal with a huge number of workers and a medley of tricky situations which demand difficult and tough decisions. But she never ignores the human aspect of any problem.

She is widely travelled in and outside India, and has gathered a lot of experience during her stay abroad, which has contributed to her insight as an administrator. As a member of the Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration, she was invited to visit Canada and the U.S.A. She also went to Colombo in 1978 to participate in the Third Commonwealth Regional Seminar on the growth of staff and their changing roles.

Being the wife of an eminent educationist in M.P., Mrs. Chaurasia has a busy round of social duties to perform, but she takes it in her stride in spite of the heavy work of her post. Her positive approach to life, combined with efficiency, enables her to attend to every small detail and discharge her duties both at home and in the office meticulously. And with so much to do, she finds the time for music and poetry which she loves deeply.

Swapna Dutta



ABHA MAITI,
Ex-Minister of State for Industry.

MINISTERIAL PROMISES

Soon after they had taken over, our two women Ministers of State, Renuka Devi Barkataki (Education and Social Welfare) and Abha Maiti (Industry) had spoken about improving the status of women. In exclusive interviews to "Eve's Weekly" then, each had promised to do "something" for women in this country.

Abha Maiti's main concern then was to ensure employment for women, training programmes and special banking facilities and loan facilities to encourage women entrepreneurs. Renuka Barkataki had promised to "push the cause of women at every level," through inter-ministerial co-ordination committees and emphasise the need for a cell for women in the Planning Commission to bring their needs to the forefront.

That was the time to talk of promises, which usually are made freely. Now after two years of their becoming Ministers of State, we thought it wise to check on their "performance chart." Had they done something to fulfil promises or had their initial enthusiasm been dampened by the usual "pressure of political work"? Had something concrete been done or were things still at the "will be" stage?

More often than not, schemes remain schemes, plans gather dust and what gains prominence is the power game. The Janata government has been no exception. The power hungry politicians are betraying the people, forgetting their so called ideologies and indulging in the "numbers game." But neither of the two women ministers were anywhere in the fray (at least overtly).

Through the hour-long sessions we found that within these two years, certain committees had been formed, special programmes for self-employment for women had been conceived, the National Committee of Women had been reorganised and schemes for women's welfare had been worked out. Though none of these have yet borne any fruit one can be satisfied with the fact that at least the committees have been formed and plans are being put into action.

Q. : Immediately after you took over, you had said that the cause of women would have to wait as you had more pressing matters to attend to. With the initial rush over, has the cause of women found top priority in your schedule?

ABHA MAITI : I am duly concerned about the cause of women. Even if it does not have 'top priority' as you choose to put it, I can assure you that the cause of women is being taken up fairly actively and a great deal is being done to ensure that women do not get a raw deal.

Q. : Could you give some concrete examples to prove your claim?

A. M. : In my Ministry we have appointed a self-employment task force for women to consider special programmes for their self-employment. I concede that it is difficult to provide jobs to all needy women, but through this task force we will create opportunities for self-employment by examining the present training programmes including those for entrepreneurship development in the field of handicrafts, handlooms, village and cottage industries, small-scale industries, etc. This task force has met twice since its formation. The task force is also reviewing the progress of various schemes of self-employment for women being operated by government and quasi-government agencies at present. The task force will also suggest new initiatives which should be taken up in creating more opportunities for self employment for women. Work has already started in this direction.

Q. : Would you comment on the new trend of thought that developmental programmes often keep women out of the mainstream of the economy even while supposedly helping them by keeping them in peripheral activities like handicrafts?

A. M. : I have always encouraged women's participation in the industry. Through the task force the women are being trained and will be employed suitably. With improved marketing and loan facilities there will be women who will encourage women entrepreneurs to come forward.

Q. : You had also said that the problem of the Ministry is not of wrong policies but of inadequate implementation. What has been done to redress this ill?

A. M. : With the stress on time bound programmes of economic development, in our policy, implementation will be assured. The main thrust of the industrial policy is on the effective promotion of cottage and small industries widely dispersed in the rural areas and small towns. We will introduce special legislation for protecting the interests of cottage and household industries with a view to ensuring that these activities which provide self-employment in large numbers will get due recognition in our industrial development. Headway has been made and positive results are certain.

Q. : You had spoken about insufficient training facilities and bad marketing system thus making the small entrepreneur suffer. Has a remedy been found?

A. M. : The training facilities are being taken care of by the task force. As regards marketing facilities, these are being looked after by the District Industries Centres, which have been set up. These centres organise market outlets, liaise with the government procurement agencies, convey marketing intelligence to the entrepreneurs and organise market surveys and market development programmes. In fact the District Industries Centre will take care of most of the things I have spoken about earlier.

Q. : Can you tell us a little more about the District Industries Centres?

A. M. : The District Centres have been formed at district level to provide all facilities and services to entrepreneurs at one particular place for setting up small-scale and village industries. It has been decided to cover all districts of the country under this programme. Therefore each district will have one district centre during the course of the next two years. During this year more than 200 such District Centres will start functioning in different regions.

REVISITED

RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI, ex-Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare.

Q. : What are the functions of the District Industries Centres?

A. M. : The functions of the District Industries Centres will be to survey existing, traditional and new industries, raw materials and human resources. It would also concentrate on identifying schemes, and give a market forecast for different items and offer investment advice to entrepreneurs. In addition to arranging training courses for entrepreneurs, it would liaise with leading banks and other institutions and monitor the flow of industrial credit in the districts and also arrange financial assistance to the entrepreneurs.

Q. : One of your initial ideas was to secure a confederation of unions so that there is a single union for one industry and a healthier employee-management relationship.

A. M. : .Not much headway has been made in that, although the Ministry of Labour is making some efforts in this direction. Actually the trade unions are not enthusiastic because of vested political interests. We need one union for more production, more work, and more output but that does not seem to come about.

We also spoke to Renuka Devi Barkataki, Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare.

Q. : You had told us that you were keen on doing something on the question of women. How far have you been successful.

RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI : I cannot claim that I have been able to fulfil that promise totally. We inherited a 30-year old machinery with its multiple problems, which we are trying to dismantle. To start with we have reorganised the National Committee of Women under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. This committee was formed in 1976 but it never met. After I took over, I reconstituted the committee and we have met twice after that. We formed a permanent executive committee. Shortly after that, the national and executive committees adopted the National Plan of Action for Women.

Q. : A great deal has been written about this National Plan of Action before. What about its implementation?

R. B. : All the states have got copies of the National Plan and it has been approved by them since they are the implementing agencies. We have asked the states to emphasise mother care, education etc. Some of the states have made headway. Andhra Pradesh for instance is giving priority to women's education and health programmes. Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala are concentrating on women's employment. The States are including these in their budget so that money is allocated separately for these programmes. The breakthrough has been made though the progress is not entirely to my satisfaction.

Q. : You had also said that you intend to press for an inter-ministerial co-ordination committee so that the cause of women can be pushed through at every level. What has been done in this direction?

R. B. : The inter-departmental co-ordination committee has been formed for reviewing the progress achieved under various departmental programmes for co-ordination between the various departments and for suggesting new programmes. With the help of this committee the officers will sit together and identify areas where services are needed for women and children. Once these areas are identified, we can expect results. In addition, a three-tier national machinery has been set up for the co-ordination of programmes relating to women's welfare and development consisting of the National Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Steering Committee of the National Committee under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State for Education and Social Welfare, and the Interdepartmental Co-ordination Committee.

Q. : You had also spoken about the women's cell in the Planning Commission to bring the needs of the women into focus at the planning stage. Has that been done?

R. B. : The Planning Commission has agreed on a working group for women. For the first time, the Planning Commission has included in the Draft Sixth Plan document, the problem of employment and self-employment for women. Three working groups have been set up, viz. the working group on employment of women, the working group on rural women's organisations set up in the rural development department, and the working group on self-employment set up by the Ministry of Industries.

The first two working groups have submitted their reports but the third has yet to do so. The Department also runs three schemes for women's welfare viz. hostels for working women, craft training centres for women in distress and functional literacy of adult women. Besides the running of condensed courses, socio-economic programmes, welfare extension projects, running of women's hostels are some of the other schemes which have been initiated under this Ministry.

Kumkum Chadha

(Since the interviews took place, the Cabinet at the Centre has resigned)

Skin care is Lakmè care

cleanses · nourishes · protects

Lakmé Deep Pore Cleansing Milk
Pure and white, it draws out impurities gently, thoroughly, easily. The first step towards a perfect skin..

Lakmé Special Astringent
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Restores your skin's delicate moisture balance. Rejuvenates the skin for that dewy, youthful look. The third step towards perfect skin.

Lakmé Skin Tonic and Freshener
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Smoothens and softens you all over. Caressingly soft . . . heavenly perfumed.

The people who know skin

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HI YA HONEY!

By an Alves called Johnnie

ADVICE ON JOBS

Some day I am going to write a book on "How to apply for and secure jobs." I have interviewed many candidates and my impression is that not many know the rudiments of application writing and interviews.

Honey, watch out for advertisements that are worded to attract you. Straightforward ads are generally inserted by men who need good, honest workers. I would be suspicious of an advertisement that read, "Wanted a beautiful young lady to replace present secretary who is expecting a baby." Nothing mentioned about secretarial requirements. Just being "beautiful" makes the position pregnant with possibilities. A friend of mine accepted a job in reply to an ad which said, "We are looking for a person who is capable of introducing staff changes." He realised later that it was a proprietory firm afraid of sacking its employees.

Once you have decided that the position is a suitable one for you, the next hurdle is the application. These are generally masterpieces of fiction as most advertisers know. So the best thing to do is to give a short resume of your qualities. Never go into pages, it bores the advertiser. I do not subscribe to the theory that "I am the man you are looking for," works. It is a line that puts people off.

Family connections of some standing may help, but don't be like the bloke who mentioned that his father was a grand-duke, his grandfather a baron, and his mother a duchess. He didn't get the job of course, because the organisation did not want him for breeding purposes. If you have left several positions, avoid saying so. A rolling stone gathers no moss and impresses no boss. If you are sent a printed questionnaire, read the whole sheet first. Some advertisers have been known to add at the end of the sheet, "Do not answer questions 6, 7 and 11B."

First impressions have a tendency to last. So what you wear at interviews is important. If you are too well dressed, the boss may get the idea that he cannot afford you. So concentrate on neatness. A well pressed suit with a matching tie or a well fitting dress or a graceful saree makes a good impression. Even if it is the vogue, do not wear the large elephant ear ties or, if a lady, a pregnant tent. Honey, you don't go to an interview all dolled up with a few strings of beads round your neck. The boss will immediately realise that other employees will waste their time ogling at you all day.

Advertising firms looking for blokes to fill creative posts may be impressed with long hair, sandals and a far-away look, but others might get the impression that you have come in for a hand-out.

A soft after-shave for men and a mild perfume for women help make the atmosphere more cordial. You are not likely to be considered if you go for interviews smelling of yesterday's fish.

Then, at the interview, look the picture of calm. Remember, the boss needs you as much as you need the job. Whatever may be your qualifications, remember it's the guy on the other side of the table who plays the tune. If he asks you your name, suppress the urge to tell him, "It's on the application form, in bold letters, you mutt!" Don't enquire about the number of days off. If you do, you'll have a long holiday coming.

If you are being interviewed by a Gocool Moneydas and you see a large portrait of his father Gotit Moneydas on the wall, don't forget to comment on how handsome the person is and enquire who he is. He will admire your taste and put you down in your dossier as being one "who asked deeply searching questions about our business."

Until next time then

Beauty is only skin deep.

Old Saying

He was the mightiest of Puritans no less than of Philistines who first insisted that beauty is only skin deep.

Louis Kronenberger

I always say beauty is only sin deep.

Saki

Did you ever know of anyone who remarked that ugliness, like beauty, is only skin deep?

Walter Parkes

Truth is the strong compost in which beauty may sometimes germinate.

Christopher Morley

Beauty is everlasting and dust is for a time.

Marianne Moore

THE THINGS THEY SAY ABOUT BEAUTY

Beauty in all things — no, we cannot hope for that; but some place set apart for it.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

The British love permanence more than they love beauty.

Sir Hugh Casson

Blonde beauty doesn't usually last for ever.

Jean Giraudoux

The beautiful doesn't matter to me.

Pablo Picasso

Beauty is intrinsically edifying.

Aldous Huxley

Beauty faded has no second spring.

William King

The fatal gift of beauty.

John Byron

Beauty lives with kindness.

William Shakespeare

Zest is the secret of all beauty. There is no beauty that is attractive without zest.

Christian Dior

Beauty without grace is a hook without a bait.

Ninon De Lenchos

David Gunston

Cheese beats milk 8to1 8 volumes of milk make 1 volume of cheese. So much for nutrition.

Cheese tops vegetables Nothing like cheese to make an exciting feast out of vegetables. So much for taste.

Cheese has the edge over meat Cheese for all your meat garnishings. No matter how it's cooked. So much for flavour.

Cheese makes the most of eggs Cheese goes best with eggs. Grated, melted or sliced. So much for fun

Amul CHEESE

Get our New Amul Cheese Book with 120 recipes. Write to Post Bag 10124, Bombay 400 001, enclosing Indian Postal Order for Rs. 9/- in favour of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, with your complete address.

CHEESE NUTRITION

Cheese is more than flavour. It is a source of high quality protein as good as meat or fish. And what's more, protein in cheese is predigested, therefore easily assimilable by children, invalids and convalescents! Cheese has 23% protein and is rich in calcium and Vitamin A content.
8 volumes of milk reduce to 1 volume of cheese.
Good, rich nutrition that makes a splendid meal.

Marketed by:
Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited, Anand.

ASP/AC-42

THE LITTLE WOMAN

by Don Tobin

THIS REALLY BRINGS BACK MEMORIES, DOESN'T IT?
THE OLD LOVERS' LANE!
REMEMBER HOW WE USED TO DRIVE OUT HERE AND PARK?
WE EVEN HAD OUR OWN SPECIAL TREE -
WE'D SIT IN THE DARK AND WATCH THE MOON SHINING THROUGH THE BRANCHES -
YOU WERE SO ROMANTIC THEN!
IT WAS ON THIS VERY SPOT THAT YOU PROPOSED TO ME!
HONK
OF COURSE THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO -
HEY! MOVE IT UP THERE!
GO
FURNITURE
HONK
JOE'S PIZZA
HONK
BEER
HONK
9-10
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THAT'S A LAUGH!

A serious ad in the "Mines Manager": "Wanted: Man to work on Nuclear Fissionable Istope Molecular Reactive Counters and Three-Phase Cyclotronic Uranium Photo-synthesizers. No experience necessary."

* * *

The lady of the house suspected that one of her two sons was paying attention to the maid. Anxious to find out which one, she said to the girl, "Gertie, suppose you could have a date with one of my sons, which would you prefer?"

"Well," replied Gertie, "it's hard to say, Ma'am, for I've had some grand times with both of them. But for a real rollicking spree, give me the master."

* * *

Lady: "Can you give me a room and bath?"

Hotel Clerk: "I can give you a room, madam, but you'll have to take your own bath."

* * *

Having escorted the young lady home on their first date, the rather reserved lad was invited in for a nightcap. As the girl prepared the drinks, the fellow strolled about, a bit ill at ease, admiring her apartment.

"Be careful if you sit on that couch," she cautioned. "If you press down on the arm and pull forward on the seat while pushing against the back cushion, it turns into a bed."

* * *

Husband: "I must get rid of this driver. He's nearly killed me three times by reckless driving."

Wife: "No dear, not yet. Give him another chance."

* * *

"Did you hear about the woman who had triplets and three weeks later twins?"

"What? How is that possible?"

"One of the triplets died."

* * *

Epitaph in a cemetery:

"Here lies the father of twenty-nine,
He would have had more
But he didn't have time."

* * *

"You told me you had to see your dentist yesterday afternoon," said the boss, "but I saw you at the match with a friend."

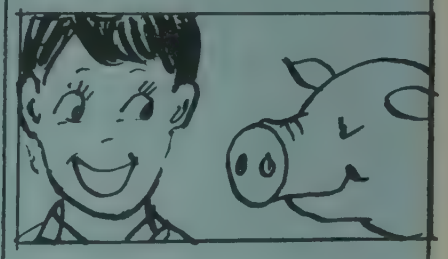
"That's right, sir. That's my dentist."

* * *

Father: "Son, you're a pig. Now do you know what a pig is?"

Son: "Sure. A pig is a hog's little boy."

* * *



Sonny: "Dad, what's an optimist?"

Father: "An optimist is a man who thinks his wife has quit smoking cigarettes when he finds cigar stubs in the house."

* * *

Frank: "My girl friend has green eyes and red hair."

Hank: "Wow! She must be quite a traffic-stopper."

* * *

Compiled by George Fegradoe

Introducing

Rasna Food Flavours

A few drops change a simple dish to a special one

New Rasna Food Flavours are here! Just one drop of Rasna per serving changes an ordinary dish into an exciting one...giving it all the aroma of top-quality condiments!

New Rasna Food Flavours enhance the aroma and appetite appeal of a large variety of dishes and drinks: from pulaos and curries to kheer and puddings...from tea and coffee to sherbets and lassi. So you can give a special touch to every meal, every day.

Choose from a versatile range: elaichi, kesar-elaichi, clove, cinnamon, masala mix.

For greater aroma and extra appetite appeal, be sure to add Rasna Food Flavours only after your food is cooked.

OBM/3141

MY HUSBAND, LET ME GO!

I feel twenty years younger. Suddenly I have been acclaimed for what I am. Touched off by love my skin glows. I am a flower in bloom. I am liberated.

All these years I have been married to you, my husband, I pined for you, but you felt it not. I was your commodity, a thing about the house, a machine that got the food cooked, the house swept, the children groomed, but I existed not. It was you alone that needed appreciation, your ego alone needed to be kept inflated. I was valued only because I was an instument in attaining that. Now that I have been wanted for myself, the person that I am, I need to go. You will miss me not. For you, I existed not.

Now, the sod of mud I had become has come alive. Someone has breathed life into my heart and it beats again. I exist. This existence gives me the courage to defy the world, defy society. What, after all, is a moral framework if it kills the vitality in a living creature? I love you, my husband, but you have not yet the capacity to respond.

FOR YOU, I NEVER EXISTED. BUT NOW THE SOD OF MUD I HAD BECOME HAS COME ALIVE AND I NEED TO GO

My whole life spun around you — the one man that mattered in my life. I tried hard to make something of it. While I yearned for you, you were immersed in your own pleasures. Since you did not feel the need to be bound to me, should I have looked elsewhere rather than be an appendage to you? I could not. My codes were constricting, my values demanding. And you interpreted my strong need for you as my weakness. I will try hard to break away from this weakness.

Had you spared some time away from grooming your own self you would have seen the beauty in me that was equally pleasure giving. But you were unaware. I existed not. One glance from you could have caused blossoms to spring forth from my heart.

Achievement oriented, you looked for world success. You got so much. Breaking away from your tradition-bound environment you had learnt much of the outside world. But you had not grown within. You could dress immaculately, in the right style, the right knot of tie, snazzy clothing. And like a mannequin you made the right gestures at the right moment. Very modern and appealing on the outside you fitted like a robot into the bureaucratic machine, got things done efficiently, always presented the right image to the world. But your inside remained rusty and cobweb infested. You had forgotten to dust and oil the joints. At close quarters your gestures squeaked of effort and the notes rang false.

At home you had all the rights and I all the duties. I know I had to look after the children and attend to the domestic chores while you made big news in the office. Yet, sometimes, I too, felt tired doing my little futilities. Was it always so necessary that you wake me up to pick up the ringing telephone or to attend to the doorbell? I know you were a big boss but I needed you to be a man too.

You went abroad. I pined for you. Engrossed in the dazzle of tinsel and the sound of trinkets you missed me not. You came back looking well fed and groomed and placed a well satisfied kiss on my cheek. You operate in a relaxed moral framework. Your needs are, therefore, not as urgent as mine. You display tremendous **joie de vivre.** I feel it is at my expense.

Just out of the operation theatre, I needed your love in the hospital. I know you could have done nothing. It is the doctor who treats. I know I needed rest. Yet I needed you by my side, my husband, to feel your strength, to feel your warmth vibrate through my body. That would have done more than any doctor could have done for me. You could understand it not. You had a party to attend and were impatient. Of course, over a cocktail you told your friends about how well your wife was attended to at the hospital. You were completely satisfied. I lay there. The room smelled clean, sterile.

You were completely immersed in the game of one-up-manship, beating others, achieving success. To me it mattered not if you got one promotion less. Your job was important, but you were more to me. This was beyond your comprehension. A man, to you, is the chair he sits on.

In the moonlit night my blood quickened as accidentally your hand brushed my body. I groped for your warmth, but you thought of beating a colleague for an increment. We talked of office and politics.

Living with you for so many years I developed a deep attachment for you. Innumerable times I felt a strong current vibrate through my body. Like a battery charge it tingled through my skin, through my fingertips, it filled my lips, my breasts, my womb. It was as though it emanated from you. The feeling was not mundane. The stimulus was not physical, but as we can operate only through our human framework it can only manifest itself through the body.

My love flowed freely. I felt myself vulnerable. Hopefully, I went seeking for a chink in your indifference. I found it not and each time crashed and hurt myself against the unyeilding wall of your ego. But now I see a beautiful glow beckoning me. Let me, my husband, bask in that glow.

You yourself said that one should come to terms with reality. Now, at last, I have decided to follow your advice. Finding my life with you come to a dead end, I take an alternate route even if it be a by-path. For it leads to life.

I know the bondage is of my own making. To you it matters not. Now I will break through this harsh constricting framework and begin to live.

I do not, any more, feel the compulsion to run your house. You had the key to my heart, but you have lost it. A touch from you could have had my whole world dancing at your feet, but you had had no time for that. So I have to seek solace elsewhere.

But listen, my husband. Whenever you decide to shed your shell of materialism and self-centredness and look for me, you will always find me ready and willing, for I am always yours. But it is for you now to seek me.

V.G.S.

WIN

This is the second
from CHILDCARE
other utility items

We have already
dated March 24,
dated April 21, 19

An exciting range
made in gay colou
and cuddly colou
care and needs of

Watch out for ou
and keep the cou
three coupons col
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third feature in O
Show, in associati

Start collecting yo
fabulous prizes.

1. Mothers! relax. . . they are on their own. Toddlers and youngsters kept busy in a bouncer and high chair. High chair can be turned into a swing as desired.

2. Dressing up quietly — Disposal nappies and popper pants in pastel colours. Easily flushable and specially made from chosen fibres; a full range of cosmetics and toiletries for the smooth tender skin.

3. Ready for a splash — a cosy baby bathing mat in a floral print. Luxuriously comfortable, and easily washable; a bathing robe to wipe dry the baby after bath; a bathing sponge, attractively designed for babies and a shampoo shield to guard their eyes from soap lather.

4. Toys — a fun world. Children are full of dangerous curiosity. Playpen won't let them come to any harm.

Photographs: Farrah

UCKY PRIZES!

ree fashion fea tures which will enable you to win prizes nufacturers of ch ildren's garments, nursery furniture and ildren from new-borns up to the age of ten.

nced this lucky draw scheme in Eve's Weekly issues pril 7, 1979. The first feature was published in our issue

ursery furniture, cosmetics and toiletries attractively designs. Also ava ilable are smart garments for the young ys for the toddl ers. Remember — Childcare caters to the hildren.

feature in Octo ber, 1979. All you have to do is to clip published along with each of the three features. The and sent, accor ding to the serial numbers, will entit- the lucky draw to be held after the publication of the 1979, followed by a grand, unique Children's Fashion th Oberoi Towe rs.

pons NOW, for you may be the lucky winner of these NOT SEND INDIVIDUAL COUPONS

Photograph : Banerjee

(2) Eve's Weekly / Childcare

LUCKY DRAW COMPETITION
Coupon

Name _____

Address _____

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1. Attractive prizes of "Childcare" products and/or cash of the total value to be won. 1st prize: Rs. 4,000; 2nd prize: Rs. 2,000; 3rd prize: Rs. 1,000; PLUS five consolation prizes of Rs. 100 each.

2. A grand Children's Fashion Show will be held in Bombay by **Eve's Weekly/Childcare** in association with the Hotel Oberoi, sometime in December, 1979, at which the winners will be invited and the prizes distributed.

3. The three coupons collected according to the serial numbers should be sent **in one lot,** latest by October 31, 1979 only after the publication of the third feature in October, to The Editor, Eve's Weekly Ltd., Peraj Building, Bombay Samachar Marg, Bombay- 400 023. The envelope should be marked Eve's Weekly/ Childcare Competition.

Now that you're a young girl you need the protection only CAREFREE* can give

CAREFREE is made with you in mind. It is the modern woman's answer to sanitary protection on those 5 days.

CAREFREE is a specially absorbent napkin that does away with the extra bulk you might otherwise have to wear. In fact, CAREFREE is so absorbent, a single napkin can retain up to half your total period's flow. But do change as often as you like for a fresher feeling.

And only CAREFREE has a plastic shield around the bottom and sides, to act as a three-way barrier against staining.

With CAREFREE you feel so comfortable, you forget what day of the month it is. No soak-through, no troublesome washing and drying.

CAREFREE is ready to use, so easy to change, so simple to dispose of. So hygienic.

Wear CAREFREE and be confident at all times.

Available in packs of 10 and 20 napkins.

* Brand of Sanitary Napkins. CAREFREE and JOHNSON & JOHNSON are trademarks of Johnson & Johnson U.S.A. © J & J 78

Johnson & Johnson

BEAUTY

ESSENTIALS OF GOOD GROOMING

Saroja Natarajan

IF STAYING CLEAN AND BEING WELL GROOMED IS YOUR STUMBLING BLOCK TO BEAUTY . . . FOLLOW THESE USEFUL TIPS

The importance of good grooming cannot be underestimated. Personal freshness can lend an aura of charm which expensive clothes or cosmetics cannot bring.

The girl who is immaculately groomed stands out in a crowd, for there is a sort of effulgence about her. There is something attractive about her hair and skin, and she has that lovely, fresh look!

You many want to look your best at all times, but sometimes you may just not be able to do it — life being so hectic. Competitive life does produce tensions. The best way of coping with this is to follow a schedule.

Cleanliness and personal hygiene are the basic necessities for good grooming. They are the result of care and habit — the intelligent day-by-day performance of the many little things that keep a person spotlessly clean. There is no short cut. Here are a few dos' for cleanliness.

Bathe daily and wash between baths. Use a deodorant after your bath to check excessive perspiration. The body gives off perspiration to regulate body temperature and dispose off waste matter. While perspiration itself is odourless, it can develop an unpleasant odour when it comes in contact with the skin. This is because the fatty acids in the perspiration do not evaporate quickly; they ferment and produce odour. The underarm area is particularly prone to this. But you can counteract this odour with a daily bath and by wearing clean clothes.

Your armpits need special care as there are more sweat glands in this area and it is difficult for evaporation to take place. You should wax them regularly and apply a deodorant. It does not stop perspiration but removes its odour.

Brush your teeth after each meal. After using your toothbrush, rinse it well in cold water and dry it. Buy a new one before the bristles become awry. Massage your gums after brushing to keep them healthy. Regular visits to the dentist, every six months, are imperative to preserve your dental health.

You should change underclothes daily and keep all your clothes clean, pressed and well aired. Also keep your shoes and sandals polished and in good condition.

Brush your hair daily shampooing it once a week and condition your scalp and hair regularly. Your hair picks up more dirt than the rest of your body. Moreover, perspiration, oil and dried skin accumulate on the scalp. Consequently you need to massage your scalp, brush your hair and shampoo it regularly.

Superfluous hair is unsightly. Remove hair on arms, underarms and legs regularly.

Manicure your nails weekly. Your hands need regular care. Scrub the fingers to remove dead surface skin and massage them to stimulate circulation. Clean beneath the nails. Remove stains on fingers with lemon juice. Use a good lotion to keep your hands soft, it also retains oil and moisture. Also give yourself a pedicure once a week.

Do regular exercises to control your figure and also to keep healthy. Remember that gaining weight, losing weight, and spot reducing takes time. But it is worth all the effort.

Being graceful is a part of good grooming. Always stand, sit and walk gracefully. Your walk should be brisk and don't swing your arms vigorously.

The radiance that connotes attractiveness does not depend on good looks alone . . . good grooming adds up to a beautiful you.

30 MINUTE MEALS

Time, to a working mother is always in short suppy. She often looks for simple, easy cooking ideas which reduce cooking time so that she can spend more time with the family. All these recipes given here are made out of ingredients bought from market or likely to be in the fridge. Vegetables and meat can be partiallv cooked or prepared the previous day and reheated or cooked in a short time. All the recipes in this section are simple to prepare; they will take only half an hour to complete, and provide a balanced diet needed for your health.

Premila Lal

ONION PIE

- 1 kg onions
- 3 tbsps. butter
- 1 cup thick curd
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tbsp. coriander leaves, chopped
- 3 eggs
- ½ tsp. chilli powder
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- 1 slightly-beaten egg white
- Pie pastry

Line a pie tin with rolled out pie pastry. Prick the pastry with a fork and leave to chill.

Meanwhile, slice the onions finely and saute in the butter till

slightly tender but clear. Blend together the curd, salt, eggs, coriander leaves, chilli powder and pepper and stir this mixture into the onions when cool.

Brush the pie pastry with beaten egg white and fill in the onion mixture. Bake the pie in a hot oven for 10 minutes. Reduce heat and bake for another 20 minutes.

VERMICELLI PULLAO

1 tbsp. gram dal
½ kg vermicelli
4 potatoes, boiled and diced
2 large onions (sliced fine)
60 grams cashewnuts, chopped
A sprig of curry leaves
8 tbsps. ghee
1 tbsp. oil
1 tsp. mustard seeds
1 tsp. black gram dal
Salt to taste

GRIND FINELY:

2 tbsps. coriander seeds
2 tbsps. gram dal
6 red dry chillis
1" stick cinnamon
A small piece of asafoetida

Fry the cashewnuts in ghee to a golden brown. Strain and keep aside. Put 4 tablespoons of ghee and fry the vermicelli to a golden brown. Drain and keep aside.

Now pour all the remaining ghee in the saucepan and fry the mustard. When they begin to splutter, put in the black dal and the 1 tablespoon of gram dal and fry till golden brown. Add the onions. Add 4 glasses of water and when it starts boiling put in the potatoes, vermicelli and cashewnuts. Allow to cook well. Put in the ground masalas and stir well. Cook till all the water evaporates. Remove from fire and keep it covered. Serve after about 5 minutes.

PEAS AND TOMATO SALAD

1 cup green peas, cooked
6 medium tomatoes
150 grams cashewnuts, chopped
2 tbsps. mayonnaise

Cover the tomatoes with boiling water and allow to stand for a minute. Drain and remove skin. Cut a ¼ inch thick slice from top of each tomato and scoop out the pulp. In a bowl, combine the cashewnuts, peas and salad dressing. Mix well. Spoon the mixture into the tomatoes.

PORK WITH CABBAGE

450 grams cabbage
250 grams lean pork
1 cup soya sauce
1 tbsp. light vinegar or wine
1 bunch spring onions
½ cup oil

Cut the pork meat into 1-inch strips. Shred onions and cabbage. Marinate the pork in half the soya sauce and the vinegar for 5 minutes. Heat oil, add pork and onions and fry till the pork changes colour. Add cabbage and the remaining soya sauce. Cook, stirring occasionally till cabbage is tender. Serve immediately.

SWEET AND SOUR POMFRET

1 large pomfret
5 tbsps. cornflour
1 tsp. ginger extract
6 tbsps. wine or light vinegar
6 tbsps. soya sauce
4-5 tbsps. sugar
1 tbsps. sesame oil
1 tsp. salt
3 tbsps. oil
3 tbsps. carrots, shredded
2 tbsps. peas, shelled
2 tbsps. beans, shredded
1 tbsp. bamboo shoot, shredded
2 green chillis, chopped
1 pickled cucumber, chopped

Clean the fish and leave it whole. Make three slashes on either side. Make a mixture from 4 tbsp. cornflour, 2 tablespoon vinegar, ginger juice and 2 tbsps. soya sauce. Roll the whole fish in this batter and fry in deep fat till crisp and brown. Remove and keep hot. Heat 3 tablespoons oil and fry the vegetables for a minute. Add sugar, remaining vinegar and soya sauce, green chillis, cucumber, salt and sesame oil. Blend 1 tablespoon cornflour in a cup of water When the mixture begins to bubble, add the flour mixture and stir till thick. Pour over fish and serve.

JHAL FARAZI

250 grams meat, cooked
3 potatoes
3 cloves garlic
1 small piece ginger
1 tsp. chilli powder
1 large onion
½ tsp. garam masala
A pinch turmeric
30 grams ghee
Salt to taste

Chop the onions finely and boil the potatoes. Heat ghee and fry onions till brown. Add garlic and fry. Shred the meat into bits and dice potatoes. Add to the onions with remaining spices and salt to taste. For variations, add one chopped tomato. Mix well and fry till dry. Just enough for two people when a meal is to be cooked in a hurry.

HAM AND CABBAGE SLAW

450 grams ham
1 firm cabbage
1 large apple
2 green chillis
1 bunch spring onion, chopped
125 grams curds
2 tbsps. mayonnaise
3 tbsps. cheese, grated
1 tbsp. light vinegar
Salt to taste

Put curds, mayonnaise, cheese. finely chopped green chillis, onion, salt and vinegar in a bowl. Blend thoroughly and chill for 4-8 hours. Shred the cabbage and slice the ham into thin strips Peel and slice the apple thinly. Put the chopped ingredients in a salad bowl and pour over the chilled dressing.

PANEER METHI

500 grams paneer, diced
4 bunches fenugreek leaves (methi)
6 cloves garlic
2 ripe tomatoes, diced
1 onion, chopped
4 green chillis
Small piece ginger
1 tbsp. coriander leaves
¾ tsp. turmeric
1½ tbsps. ghee or oil
½ cup whey
Salt to taste

Chop the fenugreek, onion and garlic finely. Slit green chillis. Heat ghee and fry the chopped onion, add garlic, fenugreek leaves, coriander leaves, green chillis and turmeric and fry for 5 minutes. Add tomatoes and salt and ½ cup whey. Cook until spinach is tender. Add lightly fried paneer cubes and cook for 2 minutes more. Serve hot.

BRINJAL RAITHA

1 kg large brinjals
2 cups curd
2 tbsps. coriander leaves
1½ tsp. mustard seeds
2-3 green chillis, chopped
1 onion, chopped
1 clove garlic
1 tsp. cummin seeds, ground
Salt to taste

Smear the brinjals lightly with little oil and put them in a moderate oven till they turn soft and the skin wrinkles. Peel the skin and remove as much seed as possible. Mash the pulp well with a fork. Heat a little oil or ghee and fry the mustard seeds. Add onion, chopped garlic and green chillis. Put in the beaten curd and mix in the coriander leaves. Sprinkle with cummin seeds.

NEW GIFTS FOR OUR MONTHLY COOKERY QUEENS

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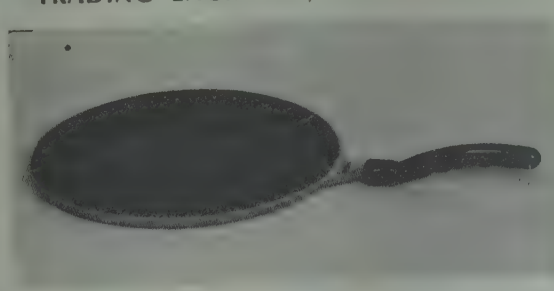

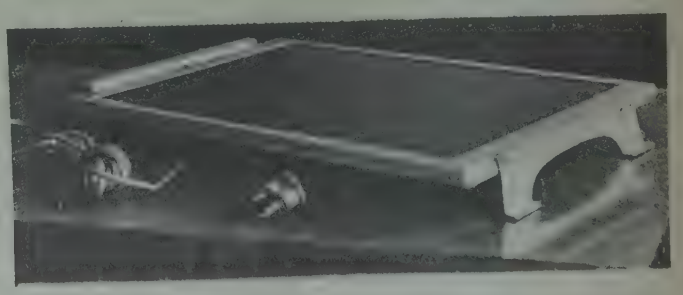

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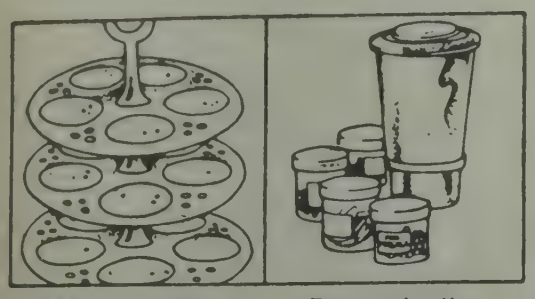

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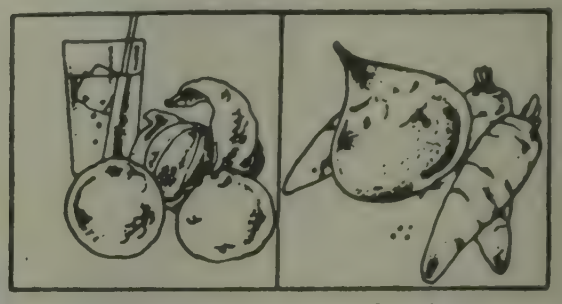

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RECIPES FROM OUR READERS

Mrs. Madhu Kamath, New Delhi.

MASALA TUKRE

¾ cup udad dal
½ cup Bengal gram dal
1½ tbsps. coriander seeds
1 tsp. cummin seeds
1 tsp. chilli powder
1 tsp. green chillis
1 tsp. coriander leaves
Salt to taste
Mustard oil for deep frying

Soak the udad and Bengal gram dals separately for 6 hours. Coarsely pound the coriander seeds and cummin seeds. Grind the dals separately with as little water as possible till slightly coarse to touch. Now mix the dals along with the pounded coriander, cummin, chilli powder, green chillis, coriander leaves and salt to taste. Tie up this mixture securely in a piece of muslin. Steam under pressure for half an hour. Cool and remove from the muslin cloth. Cut out rounds of half-inch thickness and further cut out the rounds into diamond shaped pieces. Heat oil and fry the pieces till crisp.

Mrs. Neelkamal Bawa, Chandigarh.

CRISPY TOFFIES

FOR THE FILLING:

3 eggs
1 large onion (cut into pieces)
½ cup peas, shelled (boiled)
100 grams paneer, grated
1 medium size potato, peeled & grated
6 green chillis, grated
A small bunch coriander leaves
1 tbsp. ghee
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. garam masala

FOR THE DOUGH:

250 grams flour
50 grams ghee
½ tsp. salt
Ghee for frying

FOR THE DOUGH:

Mix flour, ghee and salt. Prepare a smooth dough with water. Keep aside for a while.

FOR THE FILLING:

Heat ghee in a karahi. Put onion chillis and potatoes. Add the beaten eggs, peas, paneer, salt & garam masala. Stir well and add coriander leaves. Remove when done. Make small size balls of 1" diameter from the dough. Roll out a ball using little ghee. Place a tablespoonful of filling in the centre, cover it from the sides.

Twist the ends as toffy is wrapped using water. Make all the toffies in the same way and deep fry. When light brown and crispy remove and serve hot with sauce.

Miss Surekha Mallya, Baroda.

STUFFED BESAN PURIES

FOR THE OUTER COVERING :

200 grams wheat flour
2 tbsps. oil
¼ tsp. salt

FOR THE STUFFING :

200 grams gram flour (besan)
5 tbsps. oil
1 tsp. mustard seeds
¼ tsp. asafoetida
Salt to taste
½ coconut, grated
8 green chillis, finely chopped
1 sprig curry leaves, finely chopped
4 tbsps. water

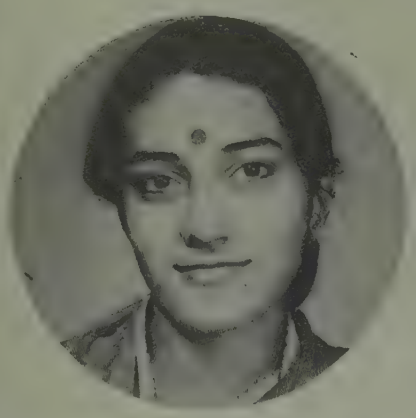
Prepare the dough of wheat flour, oil, salt and water. Make about 30 balls out of this dough and keep aside, covered with a damp cloth.

Heat the oil, add the mustard seeds. When they begin to splutter, add asafoetida. Stir and remove from fire. Add this to the gram flour together with the grated coconut, chopped green chillis and curry leaves, salt and water. Mix well. Make 30 balls and keep aside, covered with a damp cloth.

Now take one ball from the wheat flour dough. Roll out to about 8½ cms diameter. Put one ball of the gram mixture in the centre of this and fold in the edges of the rolled out dough by a little pressure so that the mixture is completely covered. Roll out to about 10 cms in diameter and deep fry.

WEEKLY WINNER

PRITI JAITHA, Calcutta.



Mrs. Jaitha wins Rs. 50.00 for this week's best recipe plus a 3-in-one Storefresh container from Trupti Industries, a gift hamper from Weikfield and a 1000 ml. Coconut Oil tin from KMP Oil Industries, Cochin.

CUCUMBER KACHODI

4 cucumbers
1 cup curd
2 tsps. cummin powder
1 tsp. chilli powder
1 tsp. black salt
1 tsp. cinnamon powder
A pinch of asafoetida
1 tbsp. garam masala

FOR THE COVERING:

½ cup semolina
½ cup flour
2 tbsps. ghee
A pinch of salt

First tie the curd in a muslin cloth for 2 hours till the water drains completely. Grate the cucumbers and squeeze out the water. Then mix the curd, salt and the masalas. Keep it aside. In the meantime, mix the semo lina, flour, a pinch of salt and ghee. Put water and form into a dough. Shape into small puries. Put a tablespoonful of the cucumber filling on one puri. Cover with another puri. Decorate the edges and prick with a fork. Fry in hot ghee till light brown.

COOKERY CONTESTANTS!

Revised Contest Rules

1. Each recipe must be accompanied by this coupon.

2. The author of each selected entry will be informed in advance and requested to send a passport size photograph of herself to be published along with her recipe.

3. The recipe must be original and not copied from a cookery book, a magazine of any other published material The prize-winner shall have to sign a declaration to that effect before the announcement is made and the prize awarded.

Address your entries to the Cookery Editor, EVE'S WEEKLY, Bombay Samachar Marg, Bombay—400 023.

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HUMAN INTEREST STORY

Facing a physical affliction with courage and making the best of life in spite of it is not the easiest thing in the world. True accounts of heroism in real life.

NOT DWARFED BY CIRCUMSTANCES

D. N. Mathur

THE UNWANTED BOY IS NOW HIS PARENTS' SOLE SUPPORT

Rajeev Bahadur, the tenth child of his rapidly reproducing parents was born a dwarf with his limbs not in proportion to the rest of his body. The head was fairly large, but the arms and legs were too short.

Apart from the horrified reaction of others, even his own parents took his birth as a disaster and were secretly hoping the child would die early, but that was not to be. Little did his parents then realise the help he would prove to be in their old age.

Life was indeed a continuous battle for him. At each and every step, he had to struggle hard. Wherever he went, there were those long amused stares of people — young and old, men and women. He faced all this very bravely and with great fortitude resisted self-pity and despair. He was resolved to fight for his right to life and happiness.

When he was of school-going age, the elders in the family did not ever dream of sending a dwarf to school, except his eldest sister. It was she who came to his help and, despite strong opposition from the family, got him admitted to a nearby school.

At school, he was predictably the butt of cruel jokes. Not only did his schoolmates stare at him but also laughed and teased him. Again his eldest sister came to his rescue. After a great deal of persuasion by her and some teachers the boys stopped teasing him. The staring, however, continued.

Though his body was so badly made, his mind was very well constructed — alert and active. He was intelligent and quick on the uptake. Aided by his eldest sister, he quickly grasped the lessons at school. His brilliant performance at the examinations earned him the top positions at school. Now, none of his classmates thought of teasing him again.

Slowly, the years passed. He cleared all school examinations at the first attempt and appeared finally for the school leaving examination. Here again he did very well and passed the Higher Secondary Examination of the Central Board of Secondary Education in the First Division.

But employment prospects for a mere Matriculate are bleak even for candidates without any physical handicap. Because of this, he joined a short-term secretarial course and learnt shorthand and typing.

This training earned him a job where he did well enough to completely satisfy his employers. He was accurate and, despite his short limbs, quick at his work. His efficiency drew praise from one and all. And he was always ready to earn more by accepting overtime work.

But there were difficult times ahead for his family. With all sisters getting married and all elder brothers in service and transferred to far away places, the head of the family had to retire from government service. There was a deep financial crisis as the old man's elder sons were unmindful of the state of affairs at home.

The youngest son among the eleven children was eager to study further, but almost gave up the idea when he realised the difficulties the family faced. In this difficult situation it was the physically handicapped Rajeev who came forward to help his younger brother. He gave him money to meet his college expenses.

But worse times were to come for Rajeev. One day, on some small pretext, he was turned out of the house by his father in a fit of anger. He left with dignity and without recrimination and spent a few nights on a railway platform. Then some of his friends took him to their house and after some days he succeeded in getting a single room. Aided by his friends, he set up home with the barest minimum of household goods. Life continued to be hard for this handicapped man, but he had the immense satisfaction of living independently.

As time passed, his mother was also turned out of the house by her husband. Of her sons, it was the physically handicapped Rajeev who gave her shelter in her hour of crisis.

Later, the old man himself came seeking shelter! Of course, there were lots of apologies and lots of promises of good behaviour.

Today, both his parents live with him in the small flat he has rented. While his healthy, normal brothers had left their old parents to their own devices, it was their misshapen boy whose birth they had so bitterly lamented and resented who came to their rescue, and that too after being treated so badly by his father.

With over a decade of service to his credit, Rajeev is now private secretary to a top executive in the Indian Airlines Corporation. As part of the perquisites, he is entitled to free travel by air a certain number of times every year. He has made good use of this privilege to visit several places in India and abroad. His parents too have had the opportunity to travel by air, thanks to their son.

He always has a good word for all his friends and also for those who halped him whenever the need arose. Faith in his capacity to overcome serious obstacles, hope in the future, and patience, perseverance and diligence make this bright and cheerful young man a remarkable personality.

His story proves that given the will-power and determination, success can be achieved in this world despite serious handicaps.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES

If you know someone who has overcome physical handicaps to live a life of courage and joy, send us the story, written in the third person, about 1200 words long and accompanied as far as possible with a photograph of the person.

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INDRANI. MUKHERJEE: farewell to a celluloid mother

Adelaide Chand

Indrani Mukherjee sits in her living- room placidly cleaning rice. With her unlined, youthful face, high cheekbones, and peaches-and-cream complexion, she appears amazingly youthful for one who's done so many 'mother' roles. She also seems in remarkably high spirits. "I've taken a well-earned rest from shooting. My baby daughter's just twenty-one days old and I'm staying home to take care of her."

Originally a Bengali, but born and brought up in U.P., Indrani was inspired to join films by her elder sister, a Bengali actress. "The whole process used to fascinate me, watching her put on make-up and all the rest of it." So she wrote a letter to Bimal Roy and he gave her a role in his film, "Usne Kaha Tha", with Sunil Dutt and Nanda, in 1959. Unfortunately, Indrani's career as film heroine didn't really soar to any great heights. "Somehow or other I found myself acting in a lot of B-grade films, probably because I wasn't too career-conscious — I was always keener on staying at home with my family than with partying, socializing, contacting producers for work, and so on. . ."

The result was that after working opposite Rajesh in "Aakhri Khat" in 1966, Indrani found herself out of work for a couple of years, until 1969, when Mr. Nadiadwala offered her a role in his "Bhai Ho To Aisa", to be directed by Manmohan Desai. The offer marked a turning point in her career, the beginning of a divergence from lead roles to character roles. "I was cast as the sister of Jeetendra, who was the hero of the film. This was the first time I was playing a Bhabhi role, and also the first time I would be working with Manmohan Desai. I accepted the film because the role was a meaty, pivotal one, and also because since I wasn't getting all that many offers, I couldn't afford to be too choosy."

After that, the first time she played anybody's mother was "in a B-grade film where I was Vinod Khanna's mom, following which offers began pouring in. I've done innumerable character roles, but the role in which people seem to appreciate me most is when I play mother."

Photograph : Sanil

Having acted opposite Sanjeev Kumar, Rajesh Khanna, Dharmendra and innumerable other heroes as their romantic heroine, how does Indrani feel about playing their mother now, particularly as she certainly doesn't look old enough. "I'm not, actually," she confesses. "Dharmendra's older than me... I'm only Jeetendra's age. But when you're an artiste," she explains, "you shouldn't let such things bother you. You should always be comfortable in your role and attempt to do full justice to it. Besides, once you're attired in complete costume, make-up, and everything, you get into the proper frame of mind and forget the kind of person you really are. I find that people who keep cribbing about doing these kind of roles are those who have some sort of complex about their age."

Of course, admits Indrani, a lot depends on one's co-star. "There may be a little stiffness at first if you feel mentally and emotionally younger than the person whose mother you're supposed to be playing. But Jeetendra is one star with whom I've never had any such problems, mainly because he's so child-like in his behaviour and attitude that I automatically feel older and more mature than him."

Careerwise, says Indrani, she's never had it so good. It's only now that the big banners and plum roles have started falling into her lap. And yet, surprisingly enough, she's

Continued on Page 54

TEACHING TRADITION

UNICEF

TEACHERS' CONSERVATIVE ATTITUDES TO MALE AND FEMALE ROLES CANNOT BUT INFLUENCE CHILDREN, WHO SPEND MOST OF THEIR WAKING HOURS IN SCHOOL

K. Nischol

UNICEF

Explicit in our constitution is the guarantee for women to have equal opportunities with men. This assurance, however, has little value if the attainment of equality is restricted by environmental conditions. Despite the fact that today both men and women are seen to be performing similar tasks, socializing agents continue to condition the sexes towards arbitrary and discriminatory roles. The man is still seen as the bread-winner while the woman's primary role is supposed to be wife-mother.

The seeds of sex role identity are sown in the family and later reinforced by institutions like the school, which is gaining importance in urban society as the place where, at most formative period of their lives, children spend the major portion of their waking hours. It is here that the children develop the attitudes and images which later determine their future adult roles as well as their relationships with others in society.

Conceding Margaret Mead's finding that "Many, if not all, of the personality traits which we call masculine or feminine are as lightly linked to sex as are the clothing, the manners and the forms of headdress that society at a given period assigns to either sex," it becomes incumbent on society to look into the factors which are sustaining and perhaps creating the gap between legislation and reality.

THE INFLUENCE OF SCHOOLS

Researchers in the West and in India have revealed that the total school experience of children influence their attitudes. Other than the overt and covert messages transmitted by text-books, a very significant part is played by the teachers' personal beliefs and attitudes. In fact, the cultural values held by teachers influence their ideal-pupil expectations, and thus mould the young minds into a pattern conforming to the value system and ideologies of the teachers.

Recognising the importance of teachers in influencing the attitudes of children, a study was conducted in Delhi and Bombay to assess the attitudes of urban and rural primary school teachers towards adult sex roles. Variations were obtained in respect of age and educational qualifications among teachers of both sexes and it was therefore possible to determine existing attitudes towards female roles by sex, age and education.

Regardless of whether a society is urban or rural, at the outset it was noted that male teachers display more sexist bias both in numbers and in degree. In fact, three times as many male teachers as female teachers indicated a preference for the restrictive, traditional role of women.

In a patriarchal society, predominantly male dominated, it would be expected that men feel disinclined to surrender their assumed position of superiority. What is surprising is that women continue to be "their own enemies": a significant number of the female teachers continue to support traditional female roles. Whereas on the one hand they desire women to be freed from the restrictive role of housewife, on the other hand they are not in favour of women being assertive and competitive in their lifestyle.

The point that emerges is that although the bias against liberalizing female roles is more pronounced among male teachers, the damage to young female students is likely to be more on account of the negative attitudes of the female teachers.

To the extent that age influences the attitudes of teachers, the results indicated that both in the urban and the rural setups the percentage of teachers holding conservative attitudes increases with age. In fact, while less than one-seventh of the teacher population below 24 years of age rejected the expansion of female roles, more than one-fifth of those whose age was above 46 years were in favour of tradition.

This situation may not be so damaging in the rural areas where there are mostly one-teacher schools But students in the urban set-up face conflicting views because they have teachers of different ages. The obvious result is confusion and ambiguity in the minds of the growing generation.

DOES EDUCATION MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Whereas observation and informal experience over a period of time would cause certain attitudinal changes in society, education would tend to quicken the process of change. This assumption tended to be substantiated by the results of the study. Among the sample of teachers contacted, it was noted that teachers having ten years of schooling were more in favour of the continuity of tradition, while the post-graduates, in decidedly greater numbers, favoured female emancipation.

Brahm Dev

Accepting Parson's definition of 'role' as implying "that aspect one does in relationship with others, seen in the context of its functional significance for the social system", the role of an urban female in India today is not one, but several — she is mother, wife and homemaker; she undertakes useful economic work and contributes to family income; and as an individual, she attempts to develop an identity of her own.

What a woman does in each of these segments of her life, however, hang together and operate as a coherent role.

In attempting to find out the attitudes of teachers to these segmented female roles, the startling fact that came to light was that the attitudes of female teachers in all spheres seemed largely to be influenced by what in their view would be male preferences. It was evident that their keenness to please the male species was more than their ability to strike a proper balance between the role of "traditional housewife" and "economically independent person".

The attitudes of teachers. of both sexes, towards the female role of mother/housewife was distinctly traditional. Over 50 per cent of the male teachers considered "women's place to be in the home". They expressed serious doubts about any change in this pattern, claiming to fear the consequences they imagine: neglect of home, problems among children, marital conflicts and loss of modesty(!) A small percentage of the female teachers were apprehensive that female preference of career over home would result in conflicts with the male co-partner. Although they were working women themselves, they felt bound by the home syndrome which alone, in their view, symbolized femininity.

LIMITED ACCEPTANCE OF WOMEN'S CAREERS

The attitudes of male and female teachers towards women's participation in the work force were relatively more positive. Almost all the respondents considered gainful employment of women an additional embellishment. However, male teachers raised doubts about female administrative and creative ability, possibly because they did not wish the women to make a dent in the existing male domains. In their view, "women's choice of career should be determined by the demands of traditions and the convenience of the spouse."

The fears of the female teachers centred mainly on the supposed loss of femininity if women ventured into predominantly male areas of work. They wanted expansion of the occupational horizons of women but in spheres which did not require changes in mode of dress, irregular hours of work and physical strength, etc.

Thus, although teachers of both sexes were inclined to stress that it was good for their female students to be economically independent, they would at the same time be putting constraints on the choice of careers open to them. The guiding factor in determining the choice would therefore be tradition.

With regard to development of women's individual identities, many of the male teachers objected to female freedom of thought and action. Their conviction was that women are inherently different from men "and so should be modest and submissive, avoiding the company of the opposite sex."

CONSERVATISM AMONG FEMALE TEACHERS

The female teachers, happily not the majority, "conceded" to the supposed genetic superiority of the male species. They also feared that any attempt on the part of women to develop identities of their own might bring forth social criticism and, later, ostracism. Concerned about public opinion, they preferred women to continue being appendages of men rather than individuals in their own right.

The findings of the present study cannot, of course, be treated as conclusive as it was limited to only two metropolitan cities and four villages. However, what emerges is that attitudes about female roles are both ambiguous and ambivalent. In the view of male and female teachers. both urban and rural, women ought to devote themselves to the home and children. The absence of women from their homes could in their opinion, be detrimental to the harmony of the home and the healthy development of children.

The only modification of the existing female role approved by both male and female urban teachers, was the participation of women in useful economic activity. Nonetheless, the male population expected the women to be "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" — at home the subservient Sati Savitri while at work a capable individual bringing home a pay packet.

This unreasonable male expectation seemed, illogically, to be echoed by the female teachers, who indicated that women ought to take on only such jobs as did not conflict with home duties. They felt that women ought to competently perform dual roles. Evidently, the teacher population does not seem to have crystallised their attitudes and continue to hope for a blissful synthesis of several contradictions.

In any given society, one cannot hope to obtain identical attitudes among all individuals. The problem, however, arises in a school situation when children interact with adult role models having outdated and at times contradictory attitudes towards the sex roles of the future female generation. This could become a source of stress to the children and cause difficulty to them in developing their own identities.

CONFUSED EXPECTATIONS

Contradictions are rooted in our basic social structure as the older values are becoming redundant while the new ones have yet to emerge. The growing generation, faced with the vague, confused, normative expectations of adults in society, will naturally not be in a position to determine their futures free of age-old prejudices. The stresses stemming from the complex role and value conflicts would become major factors limiting the full participation of the coming generation in human as well natural development.

The problem of attitude formation cannot be dealt with meaningfully without examining and clarifying the cultural values operative at a particular period of time. If recent sociological developments have caused a gradual change of cultural values, would it not be proper for socialising agencies such as teachers to also gear their messages in such a direction that human beings have full opportunities to actualise their potential, whatever their sex?

AT HOME LOUNGERS...

Dinoo Vacha

CASUAL BUT SOPHISTICATED FOR THE UNEXPECTED GUEST!
LOOSELY FITTED YET CASUALLY ELEGANT, COULD BE WORN FOR AN INFORMAL ENTERTAINING IF MADE IN SOFT JERSEY FABRIC AS WELL.

Left To Right :
A striped shirtwaister in cool green cotton.

Pretty in crepe de chine — print and plain and banded in contrast fabric.

Jersey, gorgette or plain poplin — is definitely the season's favourite! Drooped shoulder ruffles can be in matching lace if desired.

Comfortable in a two piece — best in jersey! Try harem pants and feel more adventurous!

75 YEARS OF THE TAJ

FOR 75 LONG YEARS IT HAS CATERED FOR ROYALTY AND PLAYED HOST TO THE V.I.P.'S OF THE WORLD. HOW HAS THE PASSAGE OF TIME AFFECTED THIS MOST FAMOUS OF INDIA'S HOTELS?

"The deck about and below him began to fill with passengers who by now seemed old friends. They leaned over the rail looking at the city which had begun to appear out of the haze — the Taj Mahal hotel, the Readymoney Building, the Yacht Club, the Gateway of India and the green eminence of Malabar Hill. . ."

For Mr. Bill Wainwright of the novel "Night in Bombay" this was the first glimpse of Bombay, and the Taj Mahal is a conspicuous, exotic part of it. The novel is set in the late 30's and for him the Taj Mahal Hotel and Bombay are almost synonymous. For a certain class of people life in Bombay in those days, centred around the Taj. This is true to some extent even today. Births, marriages, anniversaries, jubilees — all are celebrated here.

A little later, when Mr. Wainwright is accosted by a blowsy, blonde woman interested in knowing where he'd be staying, he answers simply, "The hotel, I suppose". His tone suggests there could be no alternative, as if there wasn't any other hotel in the city.

In fact, when the **Taj Mahal Palace Hotel** (as it was then called) opened in 1903 with 22 guests, it was the most up to date and select hotel in the East. According to Mr. S. K. Kooka, Hong Kong's **Peninsula** and the **Imperial** in Tokyo were brethren. It was equipped, in those days of colonial rule with a steam laundry, Turkish baths, cold storage, elevator, electric lights, fans, bells, clocks and telephones.

It also had billiard rooms, reading rooms and card rooms. All this, plus three meals a day for Rs. 6 only.

Today one pays Rs. 400 for a single room, minus any meal. But then, today, apart from the escalated grandeur, it is the quality of the service, the personal touch, that are given to each customer that one is paying for.

Rene Lecler, travel editor of "Harper's Queen," when analying what makes Grand Hotels grand, refers to the Taj Mahal.

"Not long ago, I was staying at the grand old Taj Mahal Hotel in Bombay which, next to its own delicious mixture of Rajput, Renaissance and Gothic architecture, recently acquired a many splendoured Inter-Continental wing. I discovered that this was the only hotel in the world with its own resident astrologer. Five minutes later I also discovered that the chambermaid had cleaned the top of my toothpaste tube, polished my shoes without being asked and left six more ashtrays in my suite when she found out that her guest was a smoker. These things make a **grand** hotel."

If, while staying at the Taj, your birthday or wedding anniversary happen to come around, you will be greeted with a bouquet of flowers or a basket of fruit, with love and affection from the management. All alone in Bombay city, attending a business conference, this little gesture takes you closer to home and you feel less lost. Staff members address you by your name. When you revisit them your name is remembered, you are an important person — not just one of the hundreds that pass through the portals of the Taj.

There is the case of the old Japanese lady who writes regularly to the Taj and receives regular replies — in Japanese

As Mr. Lecler points out, there is an enormous amount of human psychology behind the run-

---

ABOVE : The Taj Mahal Hotel, the way it used to be. The pagoda-like structure has now been replaced with the Gateway of India. BELOW : The Tanjore restaurant, serving up "the exotic East."

The new look: The Taj Mahal Intercontinental. The new building blends surprisingly well with the old.

ABOVE: The Sea Lounge. The most "unrestaurant-like" of restaurants in Bombay, it is liked for its sea-view, peaceful atmosphere and leisurely pace.

LEFT: The Ballroom, laid out for a sumptuous banquet.

ning of a grand hotel. He says, "To quote the Taj Mahal again, one now has the choice of a room or suite in the old Taj — serene and pleasantly Indian — or one in the new Taj — custom built with superb American plumbing. I made no special request when booking, and on arrival I found that I had been lodged in the Old Taj. Instinctively this intelligent management had decided that this is what I would have chosen."

I met at random some of the visitors to the Taj and asked them about their favourite spots. The Taj offers a varied fare and has something to suit each taste, each mood.

Gayatri, an assistant editor of a magazine finds the **Sea Lounge** the best restaurant in the Taj. Overlooking the boat-studded sea, it has a serene, placid atmosphere. This is a place where one can lounge for hours without being bothered by over-enthusiastic waiters. She doesn't like the **Shamiana** or the **Tanjore.**

The Shamiana is a rather overcrowded and noisy place, being popular with the younger set and with the social climbers. Beaux wishing to be seen dating their sweethearts in style do it at the Shamiana. American georgette clad ladies and paunchy businessmen also like dining here.

The Tanjore, which serves Indian food, is of special interest to the foreigner. Dining in exotic Indian splendour, he gets his first glimpse of classical Indian dance. The concept of the Tanjore is borrowered from its namesake — that is, temples where devdasis danced.

Among Indians there are varying opinions about this place. The business magnate who entertains his clients here before striking a deal, talks about its decor, explains the tradition behind it, goes into ecstasies about our culture and establishes an atmosphere of informality before settling down to business. For him, therefore, the Tanjore is a source of conversation and a means of entertaining important people in a manner befitting royalty.

One also pays a royal amount for all this grandeur which is why it cannot be popular with too many. One of the ladies I was talking to, told me, "Frankly I don't see the point of paying so much for Indian food." She was also critical about its decor. She found everything, including the food, too heavy. For people like her, the Taj has other things to offer. Authentic French food is now served at the **Rooftop Rendezvous.** Paul Bocuse, from Paris, one of the world's greatest chefs, recently inaugurated his **"Nouvelle Cuisine"** at the Rendezvous kitchen.

There is also the **Golden Dragon,** the Chinese restaurant where delicacies from the province of Szechwan are also served.

The Taj was built with noble intentions and in a way served a national purpose. Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata had been refused entry at the **Pyrkes Apollo Hotel.** In spite of the 1857 revoution discrimination against Indians was very strong in those days. Considering that the whites were living off the fat of our land it was ridiculous that there was no hotel or club where the Indians and British could socialize on an equal footing.

The Taj helped to break down these preposterous barriers.

Today, when this purpose has

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The natural fabric!
Modcotton, with their direct
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75 YEARS OF THE TAJ

been outlived it is attacked for being an island of luxury, for encouraging people to indulge in extravagant spending and not contributing to the national savings. Such attacks may perhaps be countered by two facts:

1) Hotels like the Taj are essential for the growth of tourism and trade and for increasing our foreign exchange reserves.

2) 52 per cent of the Taj's profits are channelized for charitable purposes. Whether these justifications are strong enough or not would depend on the justifications for the socio-economic structure we have decided to adopt. The existence of the Taj cannot be criticised in isolation.

Tata had sworn that his hotel would never practise discrimination or show discourtesy to anyone. In some ways this pledge is still fulfilled. For instance there are many who stroll through the doors of the Taj, visit the loo, take a walk down to the other end and stroll out again without inviting any polite or impolite queries. Arab guests hold their business mehfils right in the middle of the lounge without causing any elevation of eyebrows.

At the same time, a number of people told me that there was a visible deterioration in the attitude of the staff members, that some of them considered themselves as a cut above the rest. The younger members who lack the courtesy and culture of the past look upon the Taj merely as a passport to snobbery and this is merely a reflection of the times. With "tradition" gradually becoming an obsolete word in the world at large it is, I suppose, difficult for the Taj to remain untouched.

Though social climbers form a considerable percentage of the people who visit the Taj its list of guests include luminaries like the Prince of Wales (way back in 1907 when Chicken Queen Mary was especially cooked for him by Chef Albert Laniel), the moon-walkers Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins (who booked entire wings for themselves) and the now disreputed President Nixon (who lived in more modest suites than the astronauts.). The visit of the record-breaking Beatles had created a near stampede outside the Taj. The list is a long one for there are many who would still rather stay at the Taj than in any of the newer hotels.

Today when the Taj is a symbol of splendour and comfort it would be interesting as a contrast, to quote here a description of the Taj as it used to be in the 30's.

ABOVE : The Shamiana is a busy, all-night restaurant, a favourite breakfast stop of the night-birds of the city.

RIGHT : The Tata suite in the Taj Mahal Hotel.

"In those days the Taj Mahal Hotel had the air of a vast middle western country jail. Built around two or three great wells . . .the stairs were of stone and the railings of iron, and around the great wells ran galleries. . off these the rooms opened, each one more like a cell than a hotel room. . . Overhead there was a large old fashioned electric punkah and outside on the cool slate slept the bearers. They slept there not only at night, but all through the hot days, when they were not gossiping with other bearers. . . The bearers from one end to the other of the vast hotel knew everything about every guest of the hotel, his vices, his peculiarities, his meannesses or generosities. It was as if each room was walled with glass for all the world to look inside. . .

Through the hallway and the bazaar which occupied half its area, came and went a procession of Arab horse dealers, British Governors and Civil Servants, Russian and German trollops, Indian princes. . . comic middle aged tourists, gamblers, oil prospectors. The procession went on day and night, for in the heat of the city and with the fantastic character of many of the guests, the place was as alive at four in the morning as at midday. . ." (Night In Bombay).

The Taj has been a silent witness to many cataclysmic changes. In the 1900's it looked upon leisurely evening parties on the quay. Then, the Gateway was built. And today, there is the rather ugly structure built by the Ministry of Defence — the dockyard. The view of the sea front has been changing continuously. Instead of the leisurely exclusive parties, you have throngs of noisy people visiting the Gateway, hawkers peddling all kinds of "tourist" fare and the chug-chugging of the boats beyond.

With the changing times the Taj too has undergone transformation. The towering Inter-continental built beside its sprawling grandsire, and reaching out towards the sky, symbolizes, in a way, the new pushing spirit of our times. So K. Kooka's observation of the hotel (he has known it intimately for several decades) would be a fitting tribute to this grand, slightly mellowed hotel:

"The Taj is bigger today and more elegant than it ever was. the crowds vast, the corridors jam-packed with wedding receptions where the juice of tomato and orange is served to toast the bride and the groom.

The magic has gone as it has in our world today. Nothing is the same and so it is with India.

The Taj, however, with its ramparts and battlements shines on a full moon night like a castle in the sky. It will continue to do so for long, long years to come."

A. C.

Photographs Courtesy : Taj Mahal Hotel Photo Library

MECHANICS

IT'S SIMPLER THAN YOU THINK

If women are no good at things mechanical, it's because we have not tried our hand at it. A guide to a better understanding of gadgets and machines.

GET THE BEST OUT OF YOUR CAR

Dilip Bam

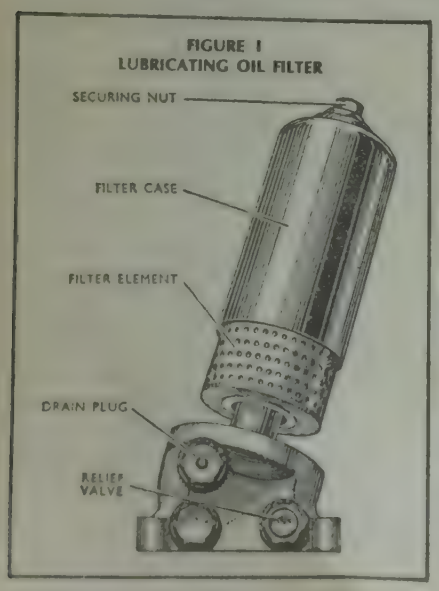
A new car today costs over half a lakh of rupees! In most towns even today, one can buy a respectable house for less than that. Yet a car has a charm all its own. Whereas a house is a symbol of stability, a car is a symbol of mobility. With the price of petrol now over four rupees a litre (best quality milk supplied by MAFCO in Bombay costs only Rs. 3.40 a litre!), lubricating oil costing over Rs. 10 per litre and the cost of spare parts (if at all available) being way beyond reason, one has to look after one's car more carefully than one's own health almost, since most employers provide medical benefits but none provide any benefits for the car if it gets sick.

Just as regular food habits and regular exercise keep a human body fit, regular maintenance and good driving habits can keep your car in 'top' condition for twenty years and more, even if it is an Indian car.

SERVICING

The greatest contributing factor towards the good health of a car is engine oil (also called Mobil Oil). This should be changed every 3000 km. Whenever engine oil is changed, the lubricating oil filter should also be changed. This is generally done at the garage at the time of servicing but the oil will not necessarily be changed unless you instruct the mechanic to do so. One re-fill of oil costs around Rs. 45 and the cost of a new lubricating oil filter element is about Rs. 16. You can get filter-elements for Rs. 6 but they hardly do any filtering though they may look genuine.

FIGURE I
LUBRICATING OIL FILTER



Also, it is better to buy a sealed five-litre tin of oil yourself and have the engine oil changed in front of you. It is worth the trouble since otherwise you can be easily cheated. Lubricating oil filter is shown in Figure I.

Get your car regularly serviced. Car manufacturers specify the time, duration and/or mileage interval between two consecutive servicings. Adhere to this schedule. Normal servicing costs between Rs. 35 and Rs. 50 but this does not include the cost of the new engine oil or of the new oil filter. This would be an additional Rs. 60. Thus one complete servicing would cost about Rs. 100.

The choice of garage to get your car serviced in should depend more on your relations with the garage owner/manager than on the sophisticated equipment that might be displayed/advertised. More often than not, the equipment is not in working condition or it is faulty. Ask around for a good servicing garage in your neighbourhood. Select one that is near your house. Establish a modus vivendi with the owner/manager. A tip of five or ten rupees to the mechanic on the sly (without the manager knowing it) works wonders. Remember the best service is only as good as the mechanic wants to carry out.

At every servicing, get the spark plugs cleaned. It takes about ten minutes to clean all four and it does not usually entail any extra expenditure except the ten rupee tip to the mechanic mentioned above. Some garages charge a few rupees in the bill for spark plug cleaning. You might as well pay it.

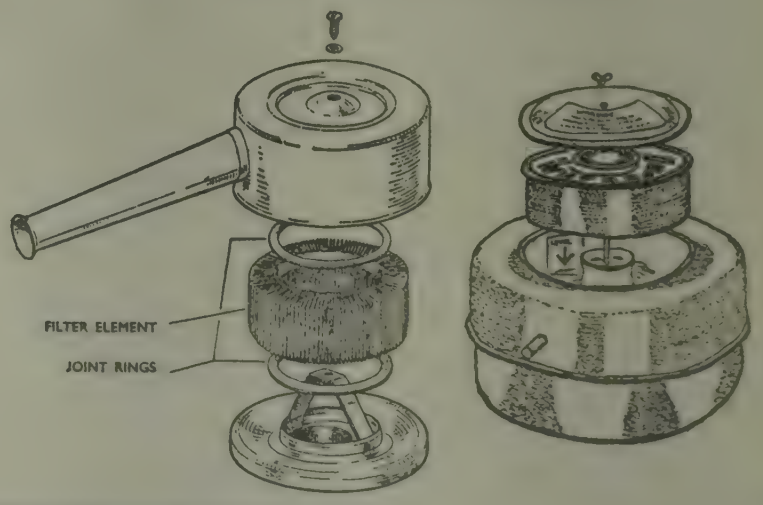
Whenever you take your car for servicing, ask to see the 'servicing schedule'. This is a list manifesting all that is included in servicing.

Ask if all that is listed is included in the standard charge and whether anything will be charged extra. Be clear about what you are paying and what you expect to get for it.

GOOD DRIVING HABITS

Before you start the car, ensure that all the switches (such as lights, windscreen wipers, etc) are off. Starting the car with say, the lights on, puts severe strain on the battery and reduces its life. Also, whenever you stop the car, always ensure that all other devices (such as those mentioned above) are switched off before you stop the engine. The reason is that when the engine is running, apart from propelling the car forward it also generates electricity which powers all the lights and other devices. If other devices are activated without the engine running, then the battery alone has to power all these, though it is not designed to do so. This reduces the life of the battery.

FIGURE II
DRY AIR CLEANER & OIL BATH TYPE AIR CLEANER



When changing gears, press the clutch pedal to its full extent. If this is not done, declutching is not complete and gears wear out very fast. Also if you sometimes have difficulty engaging a particular gear, do not force the gear shift lever: leave it at neutral, raise the engine speed for a moment, pump the clutch pedal a couple of times and then engage the gear.

Whenever you want to stop, bring the gear to neutral, let the car roll and press the foot brake gradually. Do not jam brakes violently except to avert an accident. The reason is that the higher the speed you brake at, the more is the heat generated and the faster is the wear of the brake-shoe and brake-drum. Make it a habit of applying the foot-brake when the clutch pedal is fully depressed. If this is not done, what happens is this: on the one hand the engine, through all the linkages which are engaged is trying to propel the car forward, whereas you, by braking, are impeding its function. By declutching, you disconnect the engine from the wheels so that the motion of the car becomes independent of the engine.

When you are driving at a steady speed and your right foot is on the accelerator pedal, do not let your left foot rest on the clutch pedal, for this unnecessarily wears out the clutch plates. It is for this reason that in all BEST and MSRTC buses there is a sign in front of the drive:

(where he can't miss it) "Please remove your foot from the clutch".

Drive the car in the gear appropriate to the speed at which it is travelling. Change to a lower gear when you have slowed down and want to pick up speed again. In most cars the gear change speed is marked on the speedometer. If it is not marked in your car, the following may be taken as a guide:

1st gear = 0-10 km/hr
2nd " = 10-25 " "
3rd " = 25-45 " "
4th " = 45 km/hr and above

If in the morning your car does not start at the first three attempts and starts at the fourth, do not race the engine as if to get even with the car for not starting at the first attempt. Raising the engine speed suddenly, harms the bearings which are lubricated with engine oil by a lubricating oil pump. Since the car has been at rest for a few hours, all the oil at the bearings has trickled down into the pump by gravity and there is no oil available at the bearings. As soon as the engine starts, the lubricating oil pump is also activated but it takes a few seconds for the oil to reach all the bearings. Therefore, let the engine run at idling speed for about five or ten seconds till the red light on the dashboard with "OIL" written under it goes off.

To get the lowest fuel consumption from your car, try to run it at as uniform a speed as possible. Fast take-offs, sudden stops and racing from red light to red light will neither get you to your destination faster nor make for fuel saving. Remember that all the consecutive traffic signals on a main road are timed to synchronize with a certain driving speed which is generally five to ten km. less than the legal speed limit.

In the Owners' Manual supplied free with each car, is given the optimum speed for lowest fuel consumption. This is generally 55-60 km/hr. for Indian cars. Fuel consumption also depends on road conditions (over which, alas, one has no control) as well as air pressure in the tyres. Keep tyres inflated to the recommended pressure (as given in the manual). Too low a pressure makes for higher fuel consumption and the tyres wear out faster.

CARING FOR YOUR CAR

Check the oil level. Pull out the dipstick, clean it with a dry rag and put it back into the aperture as deep down as it will go. Now pull it out and see the level of oil indicated on it. The ideal oil level is midway between the maximum and minimum marks. Remember to stop the engine when doing this. Also see the colour of the oil on the dipstick while checking the level. If it is excessively black or viscous it needs changing.

Check the water level in the radiator. It should be full. The radiator cap is tied to the radiator filler neck rim by a wire. This should be so and it is very important. The wire should be as short as possible. The cap is tied by wire because if, while driving, it accidentally comes off or you forget, after checking/filling water, to put it back on, it should not hit the fan which is rotating at a very high speed. This can damage the fan, radiator and other parts. Of course, it also prevents the cap from falling off.

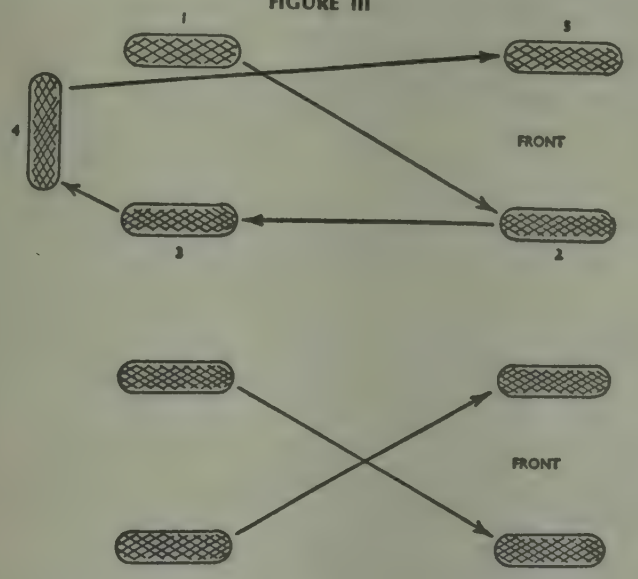
Examine all tyres visually. If any tyre has gone soft, it may not necessarily be punctured. The valve may be leaky. This can easily be determined by a hygienically repulsive, but nevertheless very effective method. Put a drop of saliva on the valve opening. If a bubble forms, then the valve is leaking. Have it tightened. If this does not work, then apparently the valve seat is worn out and has to be changed. Valve seats generally wear out because of dust/sand particles. This can be prevented by using valve caps, which should not cost more than fifty paise a piece. If, however, there is no leak from the valve, then there must be a puncture and it will have to be repaired at a vulcanizer's shop. Tyre pressure should be kept according to the manufacturer's recommendation. These three checks must be carried out everyday, but the following one must be done at least once a week.

Check the water level in the battery. The horizontal metallic grill visible in each hole should be completely immersed under the liquid and the liquid level should be about two centimetres above the grill. Always fill only distilled water in the battery.

Change the air cleaner element (if it is the dry type) or have it cleaned (if it is the wet type) at the intervals recommended by the manufacturer. (See Figure II.)

If the car pulls to one side on application of brakes, it means that the brake linings/shoes are worn out. These must be changed.

FIGURE III



Changing the tyres round to obtain even wear. As two wheels have to be off at the same time, place a safe support under one axle. *Do not* get under the car when it is on the jack.

If you are going out of town for more than three or four days or for any other reason are not going to use the car for a few days, it is better to disconnect the battery. This is done by loosening one cable, pulling it out from the terminal and leaving it dangling so that it does not touch anywhere. There is no danger since the car will neither start nor move till this cable is reconnected.

Check the wheel alignment. The front and rear wheels should travel in exactly the same groove. To check this, simply wet all the tyres and push the car a few feet over a dry paved surface. The marks left by the wet tyres on the dry surface will indicate if they are aligned or not. If the alignment is not correct you will have to get the wheels aligned at a garage.

To get longer life from your tyres (one Fiat tyre and tube pair today costs over Rs. 350) and to ensure that they wear uniformly, it is good to change the tyres around, as shown in the diagram (Figure III).

If you are not too particular and generally do not drive faster than 50/60 km. per hour, you may as well go in for remoulded tyres. These cost less than half of new tyres but their life is over 70 per cent of new tyre life. Tyres can be remoulded only once.

Remove all tools etc. from the boot and all papers and things from the glove compartment when giving the car for servicing/repairs since these generally never come back with the car.

As far as posible, park your car in the shade. If you have a garage, nothing like it. Canvas covers are available and using them helps, though putting them on and off every time is quite tiresome.

TABLE SHOWING WHY PETROL IS SO EXPENSIVE:

	Petrol (Rs.) per litre	Diesel (Rs.) per litre
Company ex. factory price	0.86	0.74
Excise duty	2.70	0.49
Sales tax and Octroi	0.43	0.14
Dealers' mark-up	0.05 (1.24%)	0.02 (1.44%)
Retail selling price (in Bombay)	4.04	1.39

Courtesy : Bombay Petrol Dealers Association

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CHARMIS
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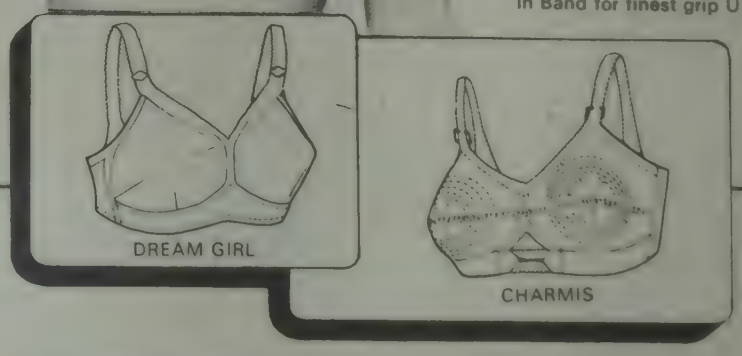

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GET THE BEST OUT OF YOUR CAR

If you are going out of town In your car it is advisable to cary some rudimentary tools with you. They are:

1) Pliers — A good one costs Rs. 20.

2) Screw driver — good one costs Rs. 12.

3) Jack — comes with the car.

4) Wheel spanner — comes with the car.

Apart from the above, carry with you a spare fan belt (costs about Rs. 20), a tin of lubricating oil of the recommended grade (about Rs. 50), and water for filling in the radiator.

Before you start, check all the points mentioned under "caring for your car". In addition, check the brake fluid level in the cup and have it topped up if not full. Make sure all the lights work, the brakes hold and, most important, make sure that the stepney (spare wheel) is inflated to the right pressure and is usable.

Canging the wheel in case of a flat tyre is very simple. It requires some physical strength to loosen the wheel nuts, but that need not at all be a deterrent if you enjoy basic good health. If you have to change the wheel, first loosen all the four (or five) nuts that secure the wheel, without raising the car on the jack. After loosening the nuts, raise the car, up pull out the wheel, push in the spare wheel and tighten the wheel nuts reasonably. (Whenever you raise a car up on the jack it is always good to put a brick or stone in front of the front tyre and behind the rear tyre of the side opposite to the tyre you are changing so that the car does not roll off. Also, whenever jacking up a car to change the wheel engage the handbrake and the put the car in the first gear.) After lowwering the car so that the wheel touches the ground, tighten the nuts fully.

If the fan belt breaks, a red indicator light on the dashboard with the word 'IGN' under will start glowing. The temperature guage will also shoot up.

To fix the fan belt, loosen the four nuts shown in the diagram (figures 4 and 5) movable. Now run the belt with your hands over two pulleys and turn the fan with your hand, guiding the belt into the groove of the third pulley with your other hand. When the belt is in place, retighten the dynamo nuts, keeping the belt tension as shown in the diagram. If the engine over-heats or water boils over from the radiator, do not fill cold water into the radiator immediately. Wait for about 15 minutes and add water in cupfulls into the radiator with engine running.

Driving a car used to be a luxury. Today with the public transport system at breaking point, the trains overflowing and the taxi operators beating up people and robbing them rather than transporting them, a car is not only most useful but also about the safest means of transport.

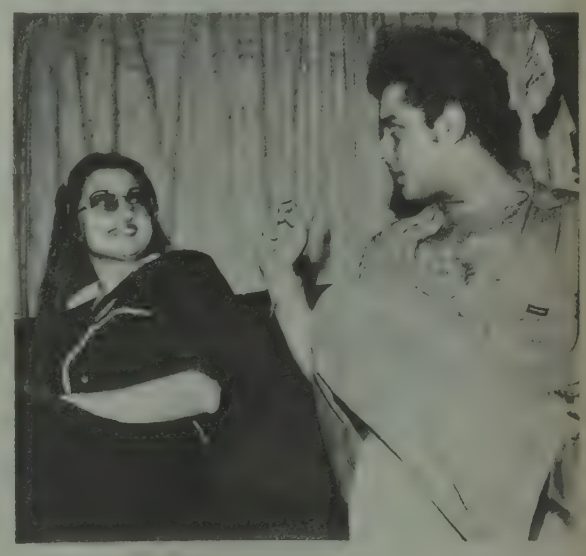
This is the second part of a two-part feature on 'understanding your car' in the "Mechanics : It's Simpler Than You Think" series.

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Devi

OM'S PARTY: Gulzar Couldn't Make It

Om Shivpuri's house, I thought, would be a sort of semi-drama and art film mandal where folks would turn up their noses at the mention of gossip and gossip columnists. I went to his party well prepared for an evening of Culture, Tradition and topics like "The Deterioration of Cinema," conversation in subdued tones, where a Gulzar would discuss child phychology or Bosky's blue moods. When I reached there I was told that Gulzar "was expected any minute, he was putting Bosky to sleep." But for this little announcement every half an hour, the party was neither Gulzari nor Theatre nor a discussion on the finer points of Cinema.



In the hall sat Neeta Mehta, fat beyond recognition, with Sachin and a few others. On the balcony were Bhushan Vanmali with wife, the Mukerjis, Kamleshwar with wife and daughters, Vijayendra, etc, Sudha, Om's wife, was decked in Kashmiri style, complete with those ear-aid type of earrings, like Mrs. Jeevan. The earrings are the Kashmiri's "suhag ki nishan." The Shivpuri children danced with Sachin, after which Sudha with Tanu went into the kitchen. Sudha fried the chops, Tanu set the table and brought the dishes out. In between the warm hosts, wine and good food was Sachin's music.

I had heard that Sachin was a good singer. Politics is my first love and music second. But I wound up my discussion of Moru and Jaggu, Charan and Chavan, and requested Schin to sing. Hardly had he started when entered music-director Anil Biswas' son in an Arab jhabba (might be his sleeping suit) and the guy insisted on singing. We all wanted Sachin, but Kamleshwar and I had had a quarrel. As revenge, Kamleshwar encouraged Biswas with "Bhaisaab, kya galla paya hai!" Biswas, puffed up with Kamleshwar's praise, was convinced that music is hereditary and in his blood. He went on singing.

The whole evening turned into a comedy and we saw to it that Kamleshwar settled down in the next room. Biswas in his Arab gown followed him there and we had some nice gazlas from Sachin. Tanu was in a mood to pamper everyone, and I am always in a mood to be pampered. So I told her to feed me from her plate, after which I ate a few morsels from Vijayendra's plate and Sachin's plate, a very novel way of eating. No bother of holding your plate, etc. Gulzar never turned up. I think Bosky must have put him to sleep instead.

There are strong rumours in filmdom, especially after the Shatru-Rina rift, that Shatru is secretly married to Poonam. People who go to Shatru's house at midnight or dawn see her attending to his garden or to the visitor's tea, etc. She does not move out even when his parents from Patna visit him. I believe this rumour because he gave Poonam an expensive diamond set. A star only spends on his wife, and that too reluctantly.

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

BOMBAY

The Red Cross Society will hold an Independence Eve ball at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay, on Tuesday, August 14. Tickets priced at Rs. 10 per head are available at the Red Cross Office, Fort. According to Dr. N.C. Puri, Treasurer of the Society, the funds collected will be utilised for the various charitable activities run by the Society.

The Bombay Red Cross runs a free hospital called the Adams Wylie Memorial Hospital, several free dispensaries and a Blood Bank. It provides artificial limbs to deserving persons and helps with the education of mentally retarded children. It also supplies medicines to other charitable organisations.

* * *

The Fund Raising Committee of the Industrial Home For Blind Women held a Hindi play, "Dulari Bai" at Birla Matushri Sabhagar. Mr. Sharad Pawar, Chief Minister, Maharashtra, was the Chief Guest and Mrs. Pratibha Pawar was the guest of honour. Mrs. Shanti Sadiq Ali is the chairman of the Committee.

* * *

On the occasion of the International Year of the Child, Miss Jayshree Mainthia and Mr. Shirish Pathare are organising an exhibition of paintings from 21st August to 27th August at the Taj Art Gallery in aid of the Children's Aid Society. Jayshree Mainthia is the recipient of the First Prize in Painting at the Annual Exhibition Sir J.J. School of Art 1979, and the Silver Medal in Painting, Suburban Exhibition of Painting 1978.

Shirish Pathare, a practising architect is a Lecturer and Head of the Interior Designing Department, in Sophia College Polytechnic, Bombay. He has won several prizes for landscape painting.

* * *

An exhibition of paintings by Mrs. Nandini V. Podar was held at the Taj Art Gallery, the proceeds of which were donated to the Children's Aid Society, Bombay. The exhibition was inaugurated by Mrs. Shanti Sadiq Ali. Mr. A.S. Kasture, Minister for Social And Tribal Welfare was the guest of honour.

CALCUTTA

Manmotho Ray, the Bengali playwright whose plays in the 30's and 40's were as popular as Noel Coward's, was felicitated by the group called 'Ravibasar'. The function had a number of well-known litterateurs speaking on contemporary literature and analysing traditional themes.

* * *

At an exhibition of illustrated manuscripts in the Victoria Memorial Hall a collection of Indian, Tibetan, Persian manuscripts dealing with subjects ranging from

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1. A cocktail party was held by Mr. S. Horino, Consul General, Japan, to felicitate Mr. G.S. Pohekar, Gen. sec., Indo-Japanese Assoc. Bombay. Seen (from left) are Mrs. S. Daftary M.D. Bharat Radiators; Mr. N. Suzuki, Manager, India Mitsui Bank; Mrs. S. Horino; Mr. G.S. Pohekar; Mr. S. Horino; Miss V. Mankermi of Parke Davis, and Mrs. K. Suehiro.

2. At the Iraq National Day celebrations held at Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay, are seen (from left) Mrs. R. Holly; Dr. M. Jamkhanawala, Minister for Protocol, Maharashtra; Mrs. S. Al-Kassar; Mr. S. Al-Kassar, Acting Consul General, Republic of Iraq and Mrs. S. Wasantapruek.

3. At an exhibition of paintings held at Taj Art Gallery by Mrs. Nandini V. Podar are seen (from left) Mr. A. S. Kasture, Minister for Social and Tribal Welfare; Mrs. Shanti Sadiq Ali; the artist and Mr. Kantikumar R. Podar.

4. Mrs. Shaila Visweswariah being installed as the new Chairman of the Inner Wheel District 319, by outgoing chairman Ahalya Rao at the Rotary House of Friendship, Bangalore. Chief Guest, Her Holiness Jagadguru Mate Mahadevi, is seen at left.

the religious to myths and fables were displayed.

* * *

The Eastern Railway Women's Organisation held their annual function at the Kala Mandir. The General Secretary, Ms. Champala Vardachari said that the club which runs various welfare projects has donated almost Rs. 3 lakhs for relief work during 1978-79. The President, Ms. Kawaldip Kaur Singh, wife of the General Manager, presented a cheque for Rs. 10,000 to the West Bengal Governor, Mr. T.N. Singh, for his "All Purposes Benevolent Fund", when he inaugurated the function. Mrs. T.N. Singh presided over their annual raffle draw.

BANGALORE

The Inner Wheel District 319 Committee met for its annual general assembly at the Rotary House of Friendship. Her Holiness Sri Jagadguru Mathe Maha Devi was the chief guest at the assembly. Among the new office-bearers installed, were Mrs. Shaila Vis weswariah who took charge as the new chairman from Ahalya B.S. Rao. Other members of the Committee comprise Rukmini Varadarajan, Prabha Paranjape, RatnaBai M. Rao, Lalitha Chikkannaippa, Saroja Kothandaram and Padmini Murthi.

* * *

Vidyullatha N. Nagar, a 11-year-old student of the Carmel Convent of Jayanagar, Bangalore, presented an exhibition of her sketches and paintings at the Indian Institute of World Culture. A young boy, Shaik Shirazur Rahman inaugurated the exhibition. A range of Vidyullatha's artistic creations, comprising crayon drawings, ink sketches, water colours and oils were on display. Vidyullatha's sketches have flow and movement.

HYDERABAD

A symposium on the "Indian Child" was organized by the Indian Women Scientists Association, Hyderabad Branch at the National Institute of Nutrition, Tarnaka. Dr. (Mrs.) Daphne M. de Rebello, I.A.S., Joint Secretary in the Dept of Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh, was the first speaker in the morning session. This was followed by a talk on "Nutritional Problems of Infants and Children," by the Director Dr. S.G. Srikantia who highlighted the importance of nutrition for healthy growth of children.

Dr. Mrs. Rama Melkote, Dept. of Political Science, Osmania University; Dr. B.C. Muthayya, Director, Psychology, National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad; and Mrs. Gool Plumber, Counsellor for Mentally Retarded Children, also spoke on the occasion.

SIMLA

Mrs. Raj Mohini Suri, held her first ever exhibition in STUCCO ART at the Town Hall Simla, which was inaugurated by Mr. Amminuidin Ahmed Khan, Governor, Himachal Pradesh.

Discarded plates, sugar pots, empty cream jars, thrown-away lamp shades, plain glass were converted into attractive wall hangings through an enamel paint base, oil colours and frosted colours. Colourful pen holders, wall plates, jewellery boxes, powder boxes, glass based vases, and table lamps were on display. Other attractions were statues of female figures cast in Plaster of Paris, and ribbon flowers.

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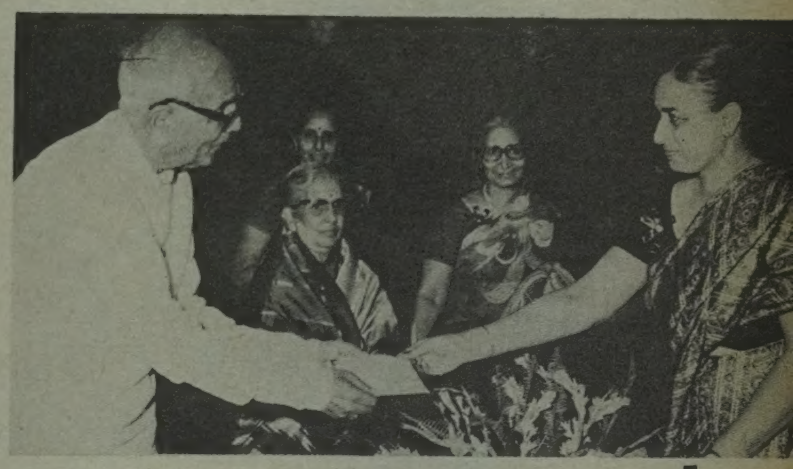

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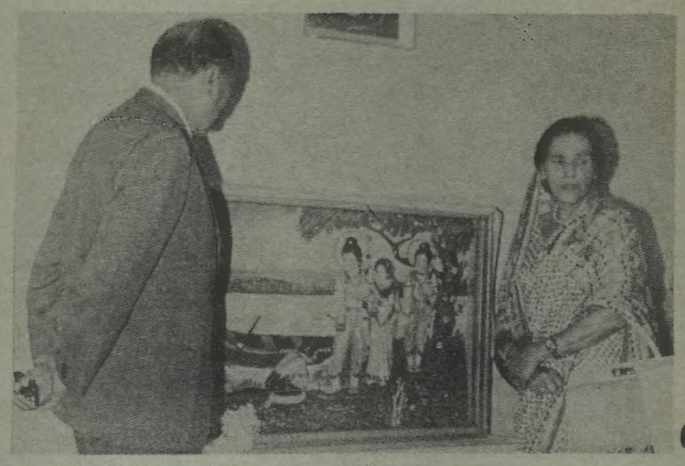

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5. Mrs. K.K. Singh, President, Eastern Railway Women's Organisation and wife of the Gen. Mgr., Eastern Railway, hands over a cheque for Rs. 10,000 to Mr. T.N. Singh, Governor of West Bengal, as a contribution to the Governor's All Purposes Benevolent Fund in Calcutta.

6. At Mrs. Raj Mohini Suri's exhibition of "Stucco Art" in Simla are seen Mr. A.A. Khan, Governor, Himachal Pradesh, and the artist.

7. At a fashion show held by Rasi Silk House, Madras, are seen the organisers, Nanditha Krishna and Uma Raju (4th and 6th from left) along with the models.

THIS WEEK FOR YOU

FOR THE WEEK AUG. 12 — AUG. 18
John Naylor

IF IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK:

Jupiter is strong in your birthday chart plus good influences from Venus. A year of success and achievement. Also your outlook will broaden; you will gain in depth of character. A splendid year for health, beauty and anything artistic too. If a parent, you will be charmed by the initiative of your youngsters and will also be relieved of an anxiety about elderly relative. You will meet people who can help you. Whether married or single, there will be much affection around you. You may take on too much, so that you find it difficult to cope for a period in early 1980. Also you may skimp on detailed planning and paperwork if bent on a new project.

ARIES
(Mar. 22 — Apr. 20)

You could miss out on something good by letting your mind wander. Sort out the wheat from the chaff. Be careful that romance and the social scene don't aosorb you to the disadvantage of more practical issues.

TAURUS
(Apr. 21 — May 21)

The social scene will be lively and you will be meeting some attractive people. You will get a fresh insight into possibilities for the future, don't be afraid to try something new. A good week for travel, the next month or two favour fresh scenes and interests.

GEMINI
(May 22 — June 21)

A pleasant surprise will set you making fresh plans and arrangements. Also news, a loving message, an invitation. Between now and mid-September, domestic issues may dominate; possibly moving house, or taking a decision on family security.

CANCER
(June 22 — July 23)

Adventurous stars aid your affairs.Good news early in the week will set you planning on expansive lines for the future. An ardent phase in your love life, if unattached, with sudden meetings, new attractions.

LEO
(July 24 — Aug. 23)

You are making headway in most areas of your activities. Prospect of financial luck soon, also an unusual opening, careerwise, if this has not already occurred. A 'fun' week, but stay alert, make fresh contacts, consider new ideas.

VIRGO
(Aug. 24 — Sept. 23)

Behind the scenes events will benefit you. This is a good week for putting irons in the fire, gathering facts and figures, ready for action later on. Splendid, also, for involvement with friends and business contacts.

LIBRA
(Sept. 24 — Oct. 23)

Aim high in your ambitions, expand your ideas. Your tact and sympathetic nature will be a decided asset this week, when an unusual situation will arise, and could increase your status. A splendid time for social life.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24 — Nov. 22)

Friendships begun recently will continue along happy lines. Your luck will hold good for some time ahead. Romantic stars beckon to the unattached but may be deceptive, so don't lose the substance for the shadow! New career opportunities will arise soon.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23 — Dec. 22)

If heart-free, meetings this week look promising, so respond to overtures of friendship, explore fresh scenes. Go ahead with changes you've planned, provided you've done your groundwork. Ask favours, pull useful strings.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 23 — Jan. 20)

Changes will benefit you, but not immediately. Meanwhile, you have minor challenges to contend with, dissatisfaction with current conditions. Personal relationships need tact as the atmosphere is quarrelsome.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21 — Feb. 19)

A sudden meeting could have an immediate impact on you, but don't let go of your heart too easily! Your feelings will be restless and uncertain. Don't upset a long-standing link for a possibly short-lived affair. You might feel in a general muddle, but efforts are leading you somewhere!

PISCES
(Feb. 20 — Mar. 21)

You'll probably be torn two ways for a time in romance. Planets about to move into opposition to your sign will bring trivial irritations in relationships and money matters. You will tend to buy unwisely, to be overgenerous.

INDRANI MUKHERJEE

Continued from page 39

planning to give it all up and settle down. "It's as simple as this — my husband and family need me. My husband (he's a chemical engineer) has been increasingly insistent that I should stay home and spend more time with him. And I think I owe him that much in retur.i for being so patient and tolerant and allowing me to carry on working all these years. My kids need me, too. My younger one is growing up. I want to make it up to them for neglecting them for so long. Do you know, we've never been any place on a holiday together? So many industry people tell me, "Indrani, why are you leaving when your time has come as an actress?' But my mind is made up."

She continues, "I'm glad I had this second chance as a character actress, so that I can leave feeling fulfilled and happy, without being frustrated or bitter and saying things like, 'What did I get out of this line?' and 'Why have I struggled for so many years?' In fact, I'm quite satisfied and content."

Who is Indrani's favourite director? "Manmohan Desai," she responds promptly. "He's taken me in so many of his films because he says he likes working with people who don't cause tension. He knows that even if shooting is cancelled unexpectedly, or if I have to sit and wait for hours in my make-up room, I won't raise objections or throw tantrums. After all, why should I?

"I also like Manmohan Desai because he's always given me my due as an artiste, never tried to give me less importance than his main stars. He's not only a good director but a wonderful person."

Among the other directors, Indrani says she prefers Aruna-Vikas because of "their professional attitude to their work and their fastidious attention to detail. I'm working in their 'Gehrayee', where I play Shreeram Lagoo's wife. Another director I'm fond of is Gulzar. I did a tiny role of a maidservant in his 'Kitaab' and found him to be a person of rare sensitivity. I like Goldie Anand too. I've done a small part in his 'Rajput' — he's a disciplined, controlled director."

Indrani says tranquilly, "Everyone in this line is so fond of me — the heroes and heroines all love me, but I think the heroes love me 5 per cent more than the heroines!" she grins mischievously.

Has she any regret about leaving? "None at all," she says emphatically. "What kind of films are we making nowadays? Most of them are trash, with the same fighting, the same stereotyped roles...I won't miss them. Maybe if we'd been making more 'good' films, like Shyam Benegal's, I'd have had some regrets, but with **these** kind of films? No chance!"

So Indrani's withdrawing without a backward glance. Good luck to her.

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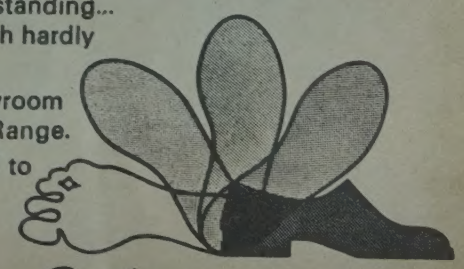

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